

Issue #38
\$2.95

HEAVEN'S METAL

Bride

ALSO FEATURING

The Brave,
Undercover,
Randy Rose,
& More!



0 74470 79599 5

DON'T ENTER THE PLAYGROUND ALONE!



Snakes In The Playground The devastating new album from Bride.

**"Bride's latest certainly ranks with
the best Hard Rock/Metal albums ever produced in
Christian music!" Bruce A. Brown, CCM Update 8/24/92**

Specially priced Collectors Edition "Double CD" is available while quantities last.
Includes interviews, four #1 radio hits, and an exclusive acoustic version of "Hired Gun"!

Available Now on Star Song High Quality Cassettes and Compact Discs


Star Song
COMMUNICATIONS

HEAVEN'S METAL

Issue Number 38
November/December

Editor: Doug Van Pelt
Office Manager: Charlotta Van Pelt
Contributing Editors: David Bach, Bob Beeman, Kemper Crabb, Jeff Scheetz
Contributing Writers: Marc Carpenter, Jason Dyer, Dave Hart, David Jenison, Joey Knight, Jeff Lott, Michael Mullaghy, Anthony Scott, Phil Sterling & Fred Z.
Subscription Manager: Marianne Fry
Wedding Photo by Ricci Fitzpatrick

Heaven's Metal mailing address:
PO Box 17367
Austin, Texas 78760-7367 USA

Main office (ship parcels here):
5055 Ft. Clark
Austin, Texas 78745
fax #: (512) 326-2401

Member Gospel Music Association

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:17)

METAL BLESSING! Bug your local stores to carry Heaven's Metal. Christian bookstores can call Spring Arbor @ 1-800-395-4340 and get signed up on the magazine program and start stocking HM. Any other bookstores (or grocery store chains?!) can call I.P.D. Distributors @ 619-481-5928 and request HM as well.

The **COOL TUNES** tape is still rockin' with 14 killer songs for only \$8.98!

(plus \$1 postage)

Hey! How about a **Heaven's Metal Baseball Hat**? How about at \$5 each (plus \$1 for U.S. postage/\$3 Canada and \$5 Foreign)?

There are a few **Back Issues** of HM available. They are: #19 (Shout); #20 (Sacred Warrior); #22 (Bloodgood); #23 (Vengeance); #24 (Holy Soldier); #25 (Whitecross); #26 (Magdallan); #28 (Believer); #29 (Jet Circus); #30 (One Bad Pig); #31 (X-Sinner); #32 (Crucified); #33 (Holy Soldier); #34 (Lanny Cordola); #35 (Novella); #36 (REZ) and #37 (Tourniquet). All others are sold out. Each copy is \$2.95 (Canadian/Foreign orders add \$3 per copy Air Mail postage).

Heaven's Metal Posters are still available from some issues at \$1 each: Holy Soldier; Believer; King's X; Les Carlsen (B&W); Ray Parris (B&W); and Zion (B&W).

The **HEAVEN'S METAL T-SHIRTS** **Scream!!!** They are all X-Large black, 100% cotton shirts with the logo in a red/orange/yellow bleed. Send \$10 (plus \$1 postage/\$4 Canada & Foreign). We also have **Sweat-shirts!** They're X-Large, 100% Cotton also, and are \$20 (plus \$2 postage/\$6 Canada & Foreign).

We've got a **close-out** special on the original **Heaven's Metal Worship At Full Volume T-Shirts!** (in Medium only) Black 50/50 Shirts for only \$5 (Plus \$1 postage. Canada & Foreign add \$4 postage).

Heaven's Metal Watches rock. (A deluxe fashion watch with the HM logo and a genuine leather strap) for \$29.95 (plus \$1 postage).

Each subscriber to Heaven's Metal has two **Prayer Partners**. We take the names directly above and below yours on the master subscription list, who have been designated to pray for you and vice-versa. Write in if you'd like their names and addresses.

If you'd be willing to make copies of a **Heaven's Metal flyer** to post around your town, write in and I'll send you a master copy.

DO YOU WANNA GROW??

"ROADIES" By John Telford



Check out the **R.A.D. Discipleship** package from Sanctuary. They're free, come in one month packets; and feature real live feedback from folks trained at Sanctuary to answer questions and give you more books and material as you progress. Write: PO Box 4130, Redondo Beach CA 90278.

NEED TO TALK? Call the Sanctuary Hotline at 1-800-548-5222. No one will take your money. Trained counselors are there strictly to help you.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO HEAVEN'S METAL ARE \$12. Canadian subscriptions are \$17. Overseas subscriptions are \$27. (These prices are for paid subscriptions only. Subscriptions that are billed will cost \$15, \$20 or \$30, respectively.)

If You Move... please let me know at least six weeks in advance! You wouldn't want to miss out on an issue...would you?

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

BRIDE	4
UNDERCOVER	10
RANDY ROSE	16
THE BRAVE	20
WHAT CORROSION OF CONFORMITY SEZ:	22
METAL TRACKS	26
ALBUM REVIEWS	32
PASTOR BOB	42
LICKS & TRICKS	43
INSIDE/OUT (*)	44
TRADING POST	45
RADIO CHARTS	45
TOUR DATES	45
LETTERS TO ED	46
CONCERT REVIEWS	49
READER'S POLL	54

All contents copyright (c) 1992 Heaven's Metal Magazine, except where noted (*). Contents may not be reproduced in any manner, either whole or in part, without prior written permission.

HEAVEN'S METAL MAGAZINE (PENDING) is published bi-monthly for \$12 per year by Heaven's Metal, 5055 Fort Clark Drive, Austin, TX 78745. Application to Mail at Second-Class Postage Rates is Pending at Austin, Texas and at additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Heaven's Metal, PO Box 17367, Austin, TX 78760-7367.

BRIDE'S HARD ROCK PLAYGROUND

Heaven's Metal writer David Jenison recently caught up with Dale and Troy Thompson of Bride to discuss the band and their new album "SNAKES IN THE PLAYGROUND."

***"SNAKES IN THE PLAYGROUND" is a fantastic album! One aspect particularly admirable about the album is the meaningful social issues dealt with in your songs. Is there a reason for this emphasis?

"Social issues are literally real life struggles and problems that cripple people's lives," says Troy. "Our ministry is to assist and encourage these people by addressing these issues in a bold way through our music."

**What are some of the social issues you dealt with on "SNAKES?"

"The song 'Rattlesnake' speaks against the people who give drugs to young kids in order that the kids might mature into addicts and buyers," continues Troy. "The chorus rings out, 'Dropping rattlesnakes in the playground/are we evil, are we good?' Giving a child drugs is like giving him a rattlesnake, for eventually both will bite and kill."

"I believe low self-esteem is the root of many of these social problems."

"Another song, 'Love, Money,' talks about gangs, the breakdown of America, and the problems of the inner-city. This song was written previous to the L.A. riots, which makes such lines as 'There's a war around Disneyland...' seem almost prophetic."

**How about the songs "Don't Use Me" and "Picture Perfect?"

"The song, 'Don't Use Me,' which was written in about five minutes," tells Dale, "was given to me totally by inspiration from God. It is a first person narrative in which the storyteller overdoses on drugs. The song then journeys through the overdose, in and out of a coma, and to the narrator's salvation. He then goes to his friend to share about salvation but finds his friend strung out on drugs. Then, with the greatest of compassion, he shares with his friend about the salvation and grace he has found. The chorus, 'Don't use me,' is a direct plea to the drugs which are controlling and harming the characters in the story."

"The song 'Picture Perfect' tells of



Jerry McBroom, Dale Thompson, Rick Foley & Troy

a girl who had an abortion and experienced the resulting degraded self-esteem. The song communicates the message that, no matter what she has done, even if it is an abortion, she can still be forgiven if she returns to God.

"'Picture Perfect' is a significant song to me," says Troy, "because I believe low self-esteem is the root of many of these social problems. Low self-esteem motivates people to associate with and become a part of 'the crowd' in order to be more accepted and thus feel better about themselves. However, this does not work."

**What about the song "Psychelic Super Jesus?"

"This song is about a band in our hometown of Louisville that sings blasphemously about God," explains Dale. "They see Jesus as a hippie guru living in the 60's. The song goes, 'That is the way you see him,' but we know that is not Who He is."

**You recorded three demo tapes after "SILENCE IS MADNESS," which debuted your new musical direction. Five of the songs, including "Everybody Knows My Name," appeared on "KINETIC FAITH." Another song from the demos, "I Miss the Rain," appears on "SNAKES..." Will you be using these demos again on future projects?

"The demos have now been retired," says Dale. "We have written many new songs since the demos and would prefer to use them. In fact, Troy and I are more songwriters than musicians, we are always writing new material. Since the recording of

'SNAKES...' we have already written thirty complete new songs and twenty more that just need music."

"It is also interesting that you mentioned the song, 'I Miss the Rain.' The song is about four years old and was first released on the demo over two years ago. However, I recently read an article which said this song was obviously written for Stryper, but since I did not join them I used it for Bride. The song was written long before Michael Sweet even left Stryper."

**What happens to all the extra songs?

"Many of them just do not get recorded," continues Dale. "However, in January we are planning to start recording an acoustic album on the weekends. If people need a secular comparison, one might call it a cross between John Cougar and Black Crowes."

***"SNAKES..." features a new producer for Bride named Plinky. Tell us about him and the influence he had on the album.

"Plinky is an excellent producer who has worked with Novella and is currently producing the new Whitecross album," says Dale. "We appreciated Plinky most because he did not attempt to control the album, but, rather, he let us be Bride while just giving insightful suggestions and pushing us to our best possible performances. One aspect about the production on this album which is different than 'KINETIC FAITH' is the mixing. We wanted 'SNAKES...' to have more of a live



sound, so the vocals were mixed dry with each instrument always being distinctly discernable at anytime."

****Tell us about the guest artists who appear on your album.**

"Ric Florian of Whiteheart does background vocals on 'I Miss the Rain,'" says Dale. "Greg Martin of the mainstream Kentucky Headhunters plays guitar on the 'Salt River Shuffle' and does the second lead on 'Don't Use Me.' The Newsboys do background vocals on 'Don't Use Me' and 'Picture Perfect.' Rick Elias does the harmonica on 'Salt River Shuffle.' Derrick of Novella played lead on 'Dust Through a Fan.' Dez Dickerson (former Prince guitarist and executive producer for our album) plays a short guitar lead on 'Rattlesnake.' We thought Dez might be out of practice after so many years, so we did not use him much, but now after seeing him play, we regret not having him play more. He is an outstanding guitarist."

****Will "SNAKES..." have secular**

distribution?

"That's the question we keep asking!" says Dale. "Actually, Star Song has an excellent staff person with secular connections who has gotten us into Camelot and Sam Goody music stores. However, just having our album in secular stores is not significant. What we need is secular marketing. Hopefully we will be able to obtain some money from the secular entertainment industry for the marketing needed to promote record sales in the secular music stores."

****What were your reactions to having four number one hits on your last album and winning the Dove award for best metal song?**

"We were very surprised and deeply honored," says Troy. "The excitement of having a number one song is incredible. However, the goal of Bride is not to get number one singles or to win Dove awards, but to minister. Bride has no rock stars, only regular men wanting to reach people who have

needs and hurts. For this reason, we always attempt to make ourselves available at our shows for people to talk with us. We highly regard that time as ministry, and we encourage other Christian bands to do the same. Many people come to the shows in distress and deeply troubled. Some people are at the show only to get out of the house. We have the opportunity to minister to these people."

****Tell us about your ministry with Our Lady of Peace.**

"Our Lady of Peace," explains Troy, "which is the largest hardcore adolescent hospital in our area, works with the most extreme 'problem' teens. We did a few free shows there to encourage these kids in the areas of education and drug avoidance. On a one-to-one basis, we take every opportunity to share the Gospel. The reaction from the kids and the hospital workers was phenomenal. One hospital administrator wrote us a thank you letter which said that '...your messages touched them...you left a positive dramatic impact.' These shows have also affected us



Troy (Photo by Steve Craig)



What tatoos? Me?



because when we saw such afflictions as a twelve year old heroin addict, our compassion really grew.”

****Have you had any other similar ministry opportunities?**

“Actually, we may be doing some concerts in Louisville and Columbus, Ohio in the public school systems to encourage drug and alcohol prevention,” says Troy. “We cannot preach the Gospel from the stage, but we will find a way to say something. It is called being ‘wise as a serpent, but gentle as a dove.’”

****I hear that you have been preaching hard against sin at your concerts. What is motivating this?**

“My zealous preaching results from the numerous letters we receive,” says Dale, “which tell of personal tragedies and struggles. Both Troy and I were raised in a Christian home so we never battled with drugs or alcohol or have experienced the abuses and terrors that many youth experience. But after reading letter after letter which discloses horrid pains inside the writer, we were woken up to a new reality. When I was a teenager, I was totally fired up for God, but I lacked wisdom. God has refired me up and has given me a deep compassion, but this time I have more

wisdom.”

****What do you do with the letters?**

“We respond to each one that expresses a need,” says Dale. “When we are on tour, someone very close to the band will respond for us. However, if the letter is written specifically to a band member, the letter will be forwarded to him to respond. On our albums, you find both my home address and phone number. I do this because I want to be able to minister in this way.”

"Troy and I are more songwriters than musicians."

****Don't the letters get overbearing?**

“The letters only bother me when they are sparse,” says Dale, “because that tells me that there are people out there not being helped. The people who write these letters usually have a very turbulent problem. Why would someone write a rock band for help? It probably means the person cannot talk with his or her parents or friends. To those who do write to us, though, I want to encourage you to please tell us about your situation and about

yourself. We respond in our letters with deep prayer and seek out answers in the biblical text. If someone merely writes, ‘Everything is going wrong, and I want to kill myself,’ I am at a loss to respond, because I do not know the situation or even the person’s age. In these cases, I rely extremely dependent upon the Spirit’s guidance and instruction.”

****Do you do Bride full time?**

“Dale does,” answers Troy. “He works in the office using the computer, doing the mailing lists, calling promoters, shipping, responding to letters, and anything else concerning the band. I have a regular job as a personnel management specialist at Fort Know, but no, I do not work with the gold. Hopefully this new album will be big enough that I can quit my job and do a Bride tour.”

****What are your touring plans?**

“We would like to do a Bride tour in Spring,” says Troy, “possibly opening up for The Newsboys or maybe Margaret Becker. We do not want to tour with a metal band, though, because we are trying to shake the metal image. Bride is now a hard rock band. Regardless of whether we tour or not, we will still continue to do weekend shows all the time. We have done over sixty shows this year. It is also very important for us to mention that



Bride receiving an award commemorating two #1 singles off "KINETIC FAITH" and a Dove Award. Pictured l to r: Jason Parker, Dez Dickerson, Dale, Troy, Rick, Mike Keil, Jerry, and Scott Hall.

Masterrock is no longer our booking agent. Anyone interested in booking a Bride concert should now call our manager, Scott Hall (502-231-0387)."

****How about your personal lives? Are you guys married?**

"I have been married for seven years," says Dale, "and have two children, six year old Alex and seven month old Zachery."

"I have been engaged to my fiance for two years and have been seeing her for seven," says Troy. "Right now I am looking for land on which to build our home, and I hope to be married in Spring."

****Tell us about Jerry and Rick.**

"These guys are wonderful," says Troy. "The four of us have been together for two and a half years, which makes this the most stable Bride line-up we have ever had. The four of us are very close, which makes for a great working relationship. Additionally, people need to be sure they realize that Bride is not Dale and Troy Thompson, but the combined efforts of all four of us. Without Jerry and Rick, Bride would have a different sound. They are outstanding musicians and an essential part of the band."

****Dale, tell us about Stryper.**

"Last year we toured with Stryper," says Dale, "which proved to be one of the best experiences our band has had. The guys in the band are wonderful people and strong spiritual leaders, so it is a shame that the church gave them such a beating. It disgusts me that many church people strive to expose when they should be striving to correct."

"After Michael Sweet left Stryper, Robert Sweet asked if I would be interested in being their new singer. The idea of singing for the greatest Christian rock band went straight

to my head, so I at least had to think about it. I did agree, though, to sing for the two Knott's Berry Farm concerts they were doing.

"It was a difficult decision for me to make. I really admire the guys in Stryper and would have loved to sing for them. Robert Sweet is a great prayer warrior and has a wonderful heart. In fact, the biggest concern on his mind regarding my involvement with Stryper was that the feelings of the other Bride members would be hurt.

"I left California to record the new Bride album without an answer. However, the answer came in the recording of 'SNAKES...' As we recorded, I saw God's hand working powerfully through the music and songwriting. I felt the success we had recording the album was God's way of revealing where I should be. I declined joining Stryper and will continue in Bride. I do hope, though, that Stryper finds a fabulous new vocalist, because they are an outstanding and godly band whom I hope persists through these present afflictions."

"The goal of Bride is not to get #1 singles or Dove Awards, but to minister."

****In the past, rumors about Bride members suggested they were living very questionable lifestyles. In fact, it has been said that your lifestyles have prevented you from being a Sanctuary band. What are your feelings about this?**

"First of all, we are not a Sanctuary band because the commute from Kentucky to California is a bit demanding," says Troy.

"Bob Beeman is our friend, and we both share the same goals for ministry. The reason people questioned our lifestyles is because they heard our songs and saw our album covers and did not understand them. Rather than making an effort to ask us about them, people just speculated and assumed things about us which were not accurate. If you think we are questionable, then by all means question us! We will tell you the meanings and significance of the artwork and our songs and will gladly share about our relationships with God. All of us actively attend and take part in a church and are under accountability to our head pastors. We all go to Aldersgate United Methodist Church, except for Jerry, who attends Buechel Church of God."

"The problem also goes deeper than just that," adds Dale. "A few years back, a number of Christian metal bands in California seemed to think that if a group was not from California and was not involved with Sanctuary, then it was not a real Christian metal band. It was like a little clique. To those bands who may have attacked our integrity, I have a question: Where are you now with your band and your Christian life? I am not sure how you would respond, but as for Bride, we are still kicking for Jesus!"

****Dale, your tatoos have attracted some attention. Tell us about them.**

"I have about ten tatoos on my legs, which equal about thirty combined hours of work (torture). Each tatoos is taken from a piece of art I have obtained that has a deep spiritual significance to me. I would be glad to explain any tatoos to anyone who asks."

****In closing, is there anything you guys would like to say?**

"Definitely!" shouts Dale. "Please, everyone, do not keep saying I sound like Axl Rose. I am not trying to imitate Axl and do not sound like him."

****Actually, I kind of thought you did sound like him—at least your vocal style (rather than vocal sound).**

"Axl's style is a copy of Steven Tyler's from Aerosmith. If you want to compare my style to anyone, I would much prefer it be to him."

"Additionally," says Troy, "we would like to say that we are very pleased with our new album and are excited to see what kind of reaction it will get. We also want to encourage people that come to our shows to feel free to talk with us about either our lifestyles or personal struggles we might be able to help you with. Remember, Bride is in this for God, so we value any opportunity to minister."

HM

LANNY

Lead Guitarist of Magdallan

lanny cordola
of riffs and symphonies

Featuring

Greg and Matt Bissonette

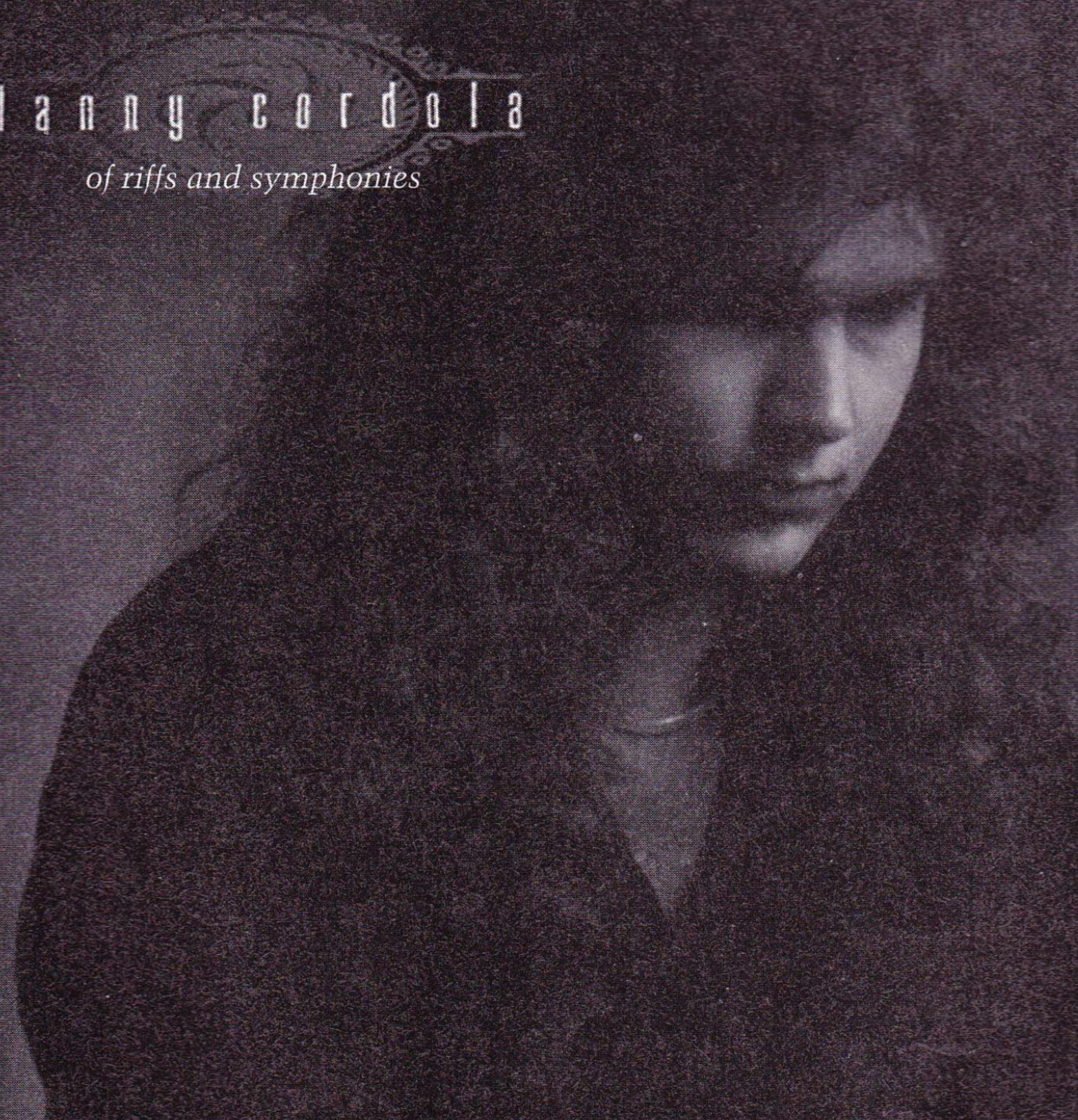
(Joe Satriani Band, David Lee Roth Band),

Jon Gibson,

Darrell Mansfeild,

James Christian (House of Lords)

Tim Heintz (Mark Farner, Liason, ELP)



The New Album From Rock's #1 Guitarist.



A DIVISION OF ESSENTIAL RECORD GROUP

*Pick up a copy wherever Christian music is sold,
or order direct using Mastercard or Visa.*

**TO ORDER CALL TOLL FREE
1 800 333 9000**

WIN LANNY'S AUTOGRAPHED CARVIN GUITAR, DELIVERED BY LANNY TO YOUR HOME. DETAILS IN EVERY ALBUM.

UNDERCOVER'S DEVOTION



Undercover is a band with experience that understands perseverance. The band's new album, simply titled "DEVOTION," is the band's cheeriest project since the band's musical change from Christian cheerleading in "BOYS AND GIRLS RENOUNCE THE WORLD" to the dark and brooding questions of life in "BRANDED;" and could arguably be called the band's best project ever. "Listen" in as bassist/leader Joey Taylor explains the band's redefinition of the word "devotion."

****First of all, Joey, let me publicly apologize for what was printed in the Asight Unseen interview (Issue #35). It was nothing less than irresponsible journalism and I'm sorry.**

"Apology accepted."

****Thanks.**

"I just hope everyone learned from it."

****How does an allegation like that effect your ministry and your life?**

"Ooh. Well, the biggest impact is it just makes me furious. Let me back up a minute here... Whoever was the source of this never came to us directly. That's fault number

Ojo, Gym, Sim, Gary
one. The Bible's pretty clear about that: If you see somebody doing something that you think is a sin, there's supposed to be some confrontation there. That never happened. The second flaw was that they went and told somebody else. That's error number two. Error number three is that this person didn't come to us or encourage the source of the rumor to come to us. On top of that, they went ahead and spoke about that to a magazine, whether it was off the record or not, is irrelevant.

"These guys are talking about being role models and all, well what kind of role model is that? In pursuit of truth we again have stooped to unethical and, uh, outrageous behavior. I think that, if we're going to set ourselves up and be ambassadors of Christ, this kind of stuff can't happen. It goes and divides the body of Christ. Nothing good came of this.

"I'm sure a bunch of people have read it and formulated opinions about us without giving us the benefit of the doubt or a chance or anything else. So, yeah, it does a lot of damage. On the other hand, when Undercover started we made a lot of noise, saying, 'We're not doing this to satisfy CCM or to carve a marketplace for ourselves. We're doing it because we want to communicate with kids. As a result, the little bickering and quibbling that goes on between grannies in the CCM industry has no effect on that portion of

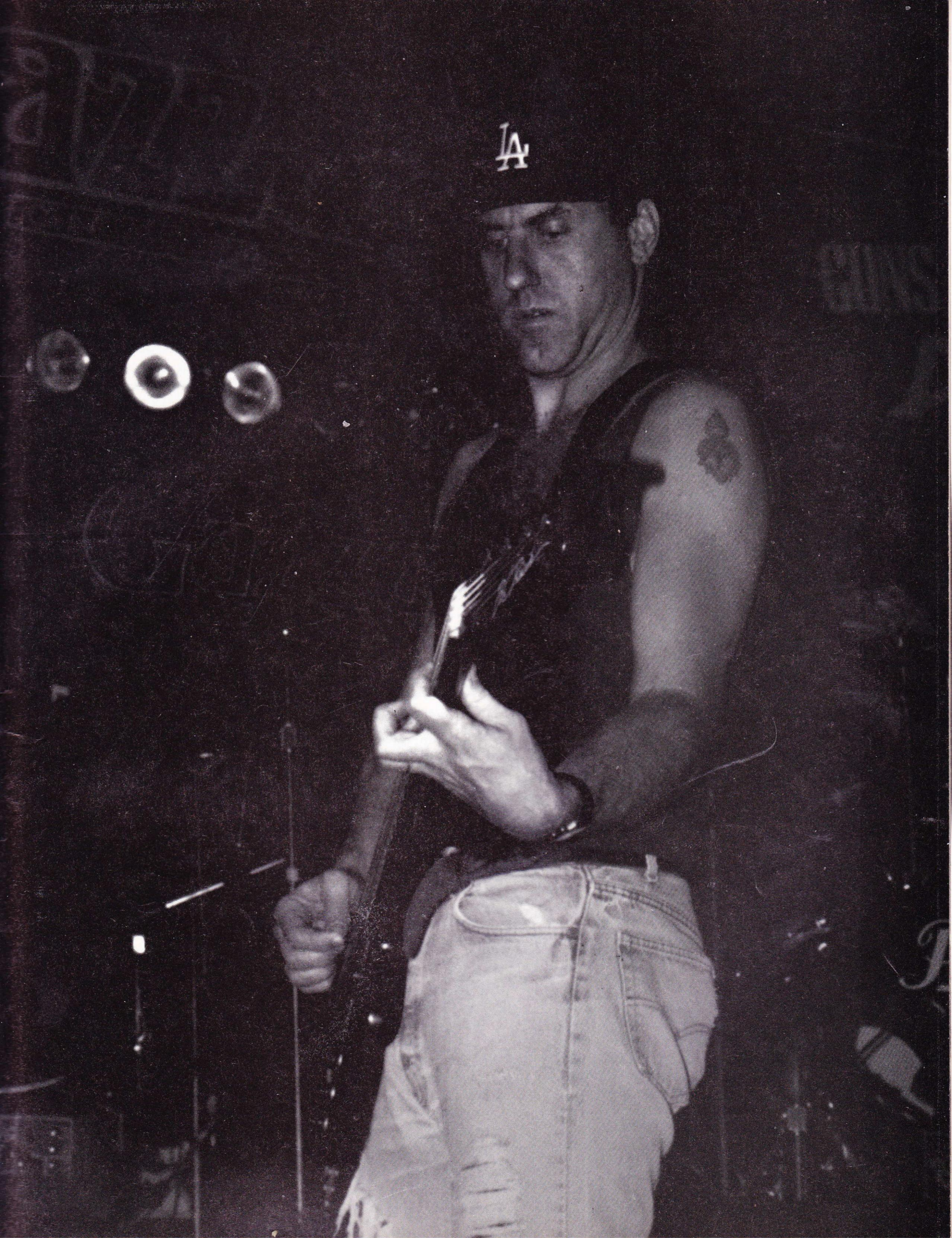
our vision.

"Oh boy, we're off to a good start!" Joey laughs. "I hope that I can get together with those guys some day, and I'm sure they didn't mean any harm, but, if you're gonna set yourself up as a role model, you have to learn this stuff. And sometimes it's the hard way.

"I can say this also: The allegations are outrageous. The people that know Undercover--that know the members--know that, sure, we have problems...everybody has problems...everyone has a lot of problems...(but) drinking is not one of our problems. It never has been. I can give anyone references to that. The point that I would have to do that is so silly."

****Other than just apologizing and giving you a chance to say what you wanted to, there's no other room I wanted to cover on that.**

"No harm done. It's business as usual. I just hope everyone learns from stuff like this. This is a small industry. The people in it are real people. Anyone is welcome to come and follow me around for two weeks, live at my house. If they wanna see what kind of life I live, come on. Put your money where your mouth is. Spend some time with me. Look at the faces of my children. Look at the face of my wife. Look at my family. Come Joey Taylor at Hollywood's Gazzari's (Photo by Larry Bolen)



and see what kind of life we live. I guarantee it, you spend two weeks with us and you'll be so bored you won't believe it."

****Let's switch gears here: You made a switch to playing bass guitar on this album. What led to that?**

"Well, I used to play bass guitar, so it's not like I had to go out and relearn it. When I write Undercover's music, I often play (string) bass to it. The only reason I really play keyboard bass is because we've been reluctant to hire someone to do that. On this record I wrote a lot of songs on the bass, so they didn't really lend themselves to keyboard bass. It's kind of a raw album. I decided to do bass on the record and do it live also."

****The songs on "DEVOTION" are a little, let's say, "happier" than the last two albums. Why the difference?**

"Because life is different. The last two studio albums that we did were surrounded by severe circumstances. I guess when that kind of stuff happens, you ask yourself a lot of questions. You try to resolve things. This time, those issues were resolved. Life is good for us. Things are simpler. It just came to be reflected on the record."

****What do you think the "Seattle sound" has done for music in general?**

"I think the Seattle sound is not completely original. It sounded to me like it had its roots in L.A. When Nirvana came out, that could've been any L.A. band as well. The good thing that has happened as a result of those bands coming out is that it kind of has revitalized alternative music and taken some of the emphasis off of glam metal, which in my personal opinion is kind of about time. Also, I think there's an element of rawness. It's just become more basic in terms of production and energy."

****What led to stopping for three years and what led to the reformation?**

"Well, we'd been together an awful long time. For seven years our schedule was real full. I was just coming out of a failed marriage and I felt like I needed to take some time off and get my head together and work through stuff. So, we just decided to take some time off. It wasn't a thing to where 'I hated so and so,' or 'So and so couldn't get along with anybody,' or there was some kind of major scandal. It wasn't anything like that, it was just we needed to step back from it for a while. We were still good friends and all, so after a while, when someone approached us about doing a little reunion thing at the Roxy, there was such an overwhelming response that we decided just to keep playing together and

see what happens. We decided to record the record."

****I guess a lot of people don't really have any idea what kind of schedule you guys had when you were constantly busy. Were you like an evangelistic outreach of Calvary Chapel?**

"I was on staff at Maranatha Music and I was ordained through Calvary Chapel. We weren't really employed by them, but we did an awful lot of work with them and stuff. Whenever there were high schools to do or something, we'd go out and Chuck (Smith) would help us out financially, because we had families and bills to pay and stuff. A week ago I was just looking through my schedule...and we were doing anywhere from four to six or seven things a week! We'd play in high schools almost every day. So yeah, we were kind of an outreach of Calvary. I think all that stopped in '86.

"A lot of stuff went down in '86. Broken Records folded up in '86. Chuck stopped doing concerts in '86. Maranatha Music left Calvary to become a private company. So, a lot of stuff changed. I guess at that time we were no longer an outreach of Calvary. We continued to do some stuff, like Chuck sent us to Europe and we did a tour with Youth With A Mission. We still worked with other Calvary's, but I think, for the most part, Costa Mesa's not doing stuff like that anymore."

"What I'm trying to do is expand our definition of what it is to be a Christian in this country at this time."

****What keeps a band like Undercover together?**

"We play well together. We like each other. We have a vision. We feel like we're doing something no one else is doing. It's fun. I think those are the main things."

****What are your favorite songs or the songs you deem as most important on "DEVOTION?"**

"The most important? I'm not sure. I think all of side one is very intense for me and has more of a collective message; whereas side two has more songs where it's a statement in itself. I think the first song on side one and the last song on side one are kind of like book ends...and the key to the record can be found in those songs, I suppose.

"I got a letter from a person a week or so ago and they just bought the record and they were confused because they couldn't see any mention of Jesus on it. I could hardly

believe it. It's true that the word 'Jesus' doesn't appear on it, I think; but the first song talks directly about that. It's called 'Work it Out.' It deals with living a very fast-paced lifestyle. One that's very typical here in L.A.

"The song's about a little story: I went fishing one night at Newport Beach. I was walking up to the pier and there was a group of people witnessing and they recognized me. They asked me if I wanted to witness with them and I said, 'No, I'm going to go fishing for regular fish this time.' I kind've caught a vibe, a little condemnation. Maybe they were offended that I wouldn't witness with them and stuff. But I went out on the pier anyway and fished all night by myself.

"At about five in the morning, some time before dawn, I was looking off the pier and there was all this white water. There was some kind of stirring up of the water going on. It looked like a boat wake. I thought it was maybe a boat going by the front of the pier or something. I could hear the water and stuff. As it got closer, I realized there was no boat there. I started getting scared a little bit. As it got closer still, I could see that it was a school of dolphins, a really big school of dolphins. I had never seen anything like that before. I was standing there on the pier and I got a blessing from that, because I saw God's creation in its natural habitat. The scripture in Romans came to mind, about God being visible in His creation. I was immediately blessed, and it was a striking contrast to me between the vibe that I caught from the Christians at the foot of the pier and yet the real blessing that I got from being out on the pier fishing, when I saw God's creation. It just let me know that God was there, that God was in control. It was in contrast to, even in the middle of L.A., I could find God in His creation.

"So, I guess the message there is: that there's more to devotion than performing religious activities. Performing activities that we as Christians in 1992 consider very important. For whatever reason, when I saw those dolphins I was praising God in my heart. So that's kind of the message of the record: that there's more to devotion, there's more to the acting out of our faith than just what most people come to accept. How do you act out your faith? What do you do? Do you go to church? Do you read your Bible? Do you go to concerts? Do you listen to Christian radio? Do you go witnessing from time to time? Or, if you're in a band, you do concerts?

"And yet, Peter and John, when they walked to the temple one day and they saw that crippled guy begging for money and they said they didn't have any, and they just yanked him up by the hand and he started walking. They didn't really witness to the guy, but it was because of their good works that he went and glorified God. They didn't have to really say much to the guy.

"None of the things that I men-

Gym Nicholson (Photo by Larry Bolen)



tioned earlier--about reading the Word or going to church or anything--that's all good to develop your own spirit, but those are not good works per se. My fear is that we've developed a church that gauges spiritual health and well-being by a nice cozy, gushy feeling inside, you know, trying to maintain that sense of being close to God; when in reality, the Christian church today is not a good example of good works.

"For instance, look at Operation Rescue. That's a cool thing. I think that takes a lot of courage, but I think they'd get a lot more respect if people also saw that same group of people going to South Central L.A. and helping clean up or feed people that are hungry or homeless or something. Really, what I'm trying to do is expand our definition of what it is to be a Christian in this country at this time.

"I'm not sure that the record is supposed to be a big statement like that. I'm giving you my thoughts and kind of my perspective when I went in to write those songs."

When I read the lines "5 a.m. at 20th street" in "Work it Out**" and the "Cleanses my mind when I go in the water in a dark night..." I wondered if you were a surfer. It made me curious as to what your non-musical lifestyle is like.

"Outside of music there's not much. I go to school. I'm a sociology major. I read a lot. I love the ocean. I try to spend as much time as I can with my kids. I don't know. I'm in a difficult position of having my job also kind of be my favorite thing.

"The song '**Dark Nights**' is talking more about baptism than anything else. It's like, whenever I go in the ocean: there's something about going in that initial time, and you come out kind of chilly cold--you get a chill and shake your head. There's something revitalizing about that. I was trying to make the parallel there with baptism. There's a revitalization there. That song is about cleansing, particularly where cleansing happens the most in my life--and that's with my wife. My personal thoughts are most clear in my relationship with my wife.

"I value my family. I value my marriage. Those are things that are very important to me. The reason I'm a Sociology major is because Sociology is the study of human interaction. It's my failure with my first marriage that made me vow to never accept failures like that again. That's a really important thing to me. In fact, if you want to go back to the original topic: that's what really burns me up. When stuff like that goes on: when rumors are spread, when people talk they are in an essence accusing me of not taking seriously something I take, indeed, very seriously.

"So, everything I write is basically

from that perspective. There are people who will say, 'Well, it's not a Christian record,' or something. To them I would say, 'If you need to hear the same thing all the time...' You've heard about sound bytes, right? That's what Christians want. They want 'Christian sound bytes.' They want to hear the word 'Jesus.' You can say whatever you want, as long as 'Jesus loves you' is in there or something. That is so preposterous and that is so contrary to the Gospel. You know, Jesus used His words sparingly. He was a wise man. I just won't throw out trite little Christian phrases.

"Let's look at this: We're all making records that are sold at Christian bookstores to Christians that go to churches. Those people don't need to be witnessed to again. We're trying to present records that have true value to life and truth. For me, my faith is valuable and causes me to see things in a certain way. It causes me to see my relationships in a certain way, my education, my politics. Everything that I do, I see through the eyes of Christ and my relationship with Him. So, that's what we're singing about.

"The last song on the record (is about) the death of my grandmother. As a Christian, I see that one way. As a non-Christian, I would've seen it a totally different way. So, we're not here just to satisfy somebody's desire for quick sound bytes and little Jesus stickers and all. Some people would think that it means that we're not really a Christian band. I guess, on the contrary, it's my love for the church and my love for Christ that makes me set a higher standard for our statements and what we're trying to say. If that's all people want is Christian sound bytes, then they should go listen to Carman; and then listen to it again and then listen to it again. There's no shortage of that out there."

"I don't want to put out religious oatmeal, that's just got nothing but a bunch of Christian sound bytes in it."

**What does the reference to "the bottom of His robe" mean at the end of the title track "Devotion?"

"Well, you know the woman that said, 'If I only touch the bottom of His robe I'll be healed?' She got grace there and I got grace on a pier. Maybe you can put two and two together at that point. I'm not so quick to say that things have to be done this way or that way. God will meet you. He will meet you at the end of a pier and He'll meet you at the bottom of His robe. This particular girl in 'Devotion,' who seems to have a problem finding a direction in life, identifies with a person who found grace in a most unusual way. This girl, like so many hundreds of kids that I talk to today in real life, can't find the

answers to major problems in their life through traditional means. I'm trying to draw the contrast to our culture.

"Look at our church culture and the activities that we participate in, where youth groups become a sewing circle or a social group rather than a place to really reach out to the community and to each other. There's gossip. There's rumor mongering. There's clicks. This girl is saying, 'My god, I want answers. I want something, and I can't find it at home and I can't find it at church. All I really want is to find grace and I guess I'll have to find it at the bottom of His robe,' or, so to speak, in an unusual fashion.

"Some of the neatest times in my life are times when God has met me in unconventional ways--in old cathedrals in Europe that have been so beautiful that they drove me to tears and yet many Christians would say, 'It's a dead church,' yet God was there. So, I'm just kind of, again, presenting an alternative point of view. It's the way I see it. I think God's available for more people than we'd like to think He is. I think a lot of people are going to be mighty surprised when everything gets sorted out, that God's grace is available to Catholics...just people that are not very well accepted within the contemporary Christian church. God will meet them somewhere."

**Sometimes even more passionately...you know, with "the least of these."

"Yeah, the record is just saying: "It's not just in your little way. It's not just these set of rules that God will..."

**What I think is neat is that your views aren't all that alternative, when it comes right down to it. It's a good thing that there are a lot of people out there who are free and who walk in the freedom of knowing that God's not in a box and He doesn't want us in a box. It's a shame that you run into boxes sometimes, I guess. They make the most noise sometimes.

"Yeah. I don't know. Sometimes our attitudes and behavior really perplex me and there are times when I feel like I can no longer identify with the direction that Christianity as a culture is heading. And, you know what? It doesn't bother me. This much I know: that there's nothing more important to me right now than working out my own salvation with fear and trembling. I'm not a loner. I'm not an isolationist. The things that I say, the things that I write...I write for a newspaper also...the things that I say from stage: I know I ruffle a lot of feathers, but if I'm saying something wrong, if I can be proven wrong, I want to know about it. The thing is, I'm questioning a lot of our attitudes and a lot of our behavior. And I think in a lot of ways

I'm right. If that's the case, we need to make some adjustments in the way we carry out our affairs."

**I think a lot of people are coming to similar conclusions these days.

"So anyway, that's it for me: keep my nose clean and work out my salvation with fear and trembling and focus on my devotion."

**I guess if there's a sound byte that we need to hear over and over again, it's "Love one another."

"That's it, but man, what a sound byte. That sounds more like a policy to me. Isn't everyone just so fed up with the political sound bytes we're all hearing? In the same way, I don't want to put out religious oatmeal, that's just got nothing but a bunch of Christian sound bytes on it. It doesn't mean anything. Just because it has those five letters 'J-E-S-U-S' on it doesn't mean that it has spiritual value. We, as a matter of policy, get a sample of everything Word releases; and some of those records--I just can't believe my eyes. I can't believe that there is so much pandering going on. You know, people will say anything, just because that's what they feel this market needs to hear--only because they think it will sell records.

"The last thing we need is another adult contemporary mish-mash of schmaltsy garbage that, you know, weeps and teary-eyed 'Jesus, Jesus.' That doesn't mean anything. What we need is solutions to real problems. The last thing this world needs is another metal band to go out there and growl with a gruffly voice for God. There's plenty of that already. There's a hundred albums like that already. I'm not saying those records are bad, I'm just saying, 'There's enough of that.

"So, now that kids are getting saved, how are they supposed to live? What are they supposed to do? How do they deal with things like getting their life in order, pursuing virtue, success in their relationships, personal responsibility, responsibility at work? I've heard stories from so many people: 'Oh, well, I quit my job...I didn't think God wanted me there anyway;' or 'I got fired, because I was coming in late, because I was at an afterglow last night.' What kind of example does that set for the world? So, these are all really hard questions I think we need to ask ourselves.

"Bottom line to me is: If you really want to see God glorified in your life and in the hearts of unbelievers around you, that's gonna happen--like the Scripture says--through the demonstration of good works. Not that we're saved by works, but that those good works are gonna be a sign of character development in you--a commitment to virtue.

"I've just about had enough of pettiness and things that don't really matter. I

saw a t-shirt the other day: 'Don't sweat the small stuff.' There's plenty of big stuff to do. Is that the best you can do--is figure out who's drinking and who's cussing and who's smoking? How far you went with your girlfriend or whatever? I'm not saying those are dumb issues. They're not dumb issues. Those are things that each individual has to work out in their own life. It's gonna be their own commitment to Christ that provides the fuel to do that.

"I'm married, and if I see a really good-looking girl at school or something, boy, instantly I'm in conflict; but it's only because I'm a Christian. I've made a commitment that that's the case. So, I have to work out my salvation with fear and trembling. And I know what kinda guy I am, and that's going to prevent me from being so holy and self-righteous against someone else. If I see them stumble, I can understand, because I've stumbled. That's the kind of stuff we need--that kind of grace. So, in 'Purple Flower,'

there's a line that says 'a celebration of the coming revolution by the children of the day.' That to me is a call to arms. We really need to evaluate...all the bands need to look at what they're saying in their music. They need to stop being so silly.

"Get grounded, you know what I mean? Get to learn the meat of what it is really like to be a Christian. When Calvary started in the 70's--that was a revolutionary idea. We need another revolution. Once again, we've become so institutional in our religion and in our music...

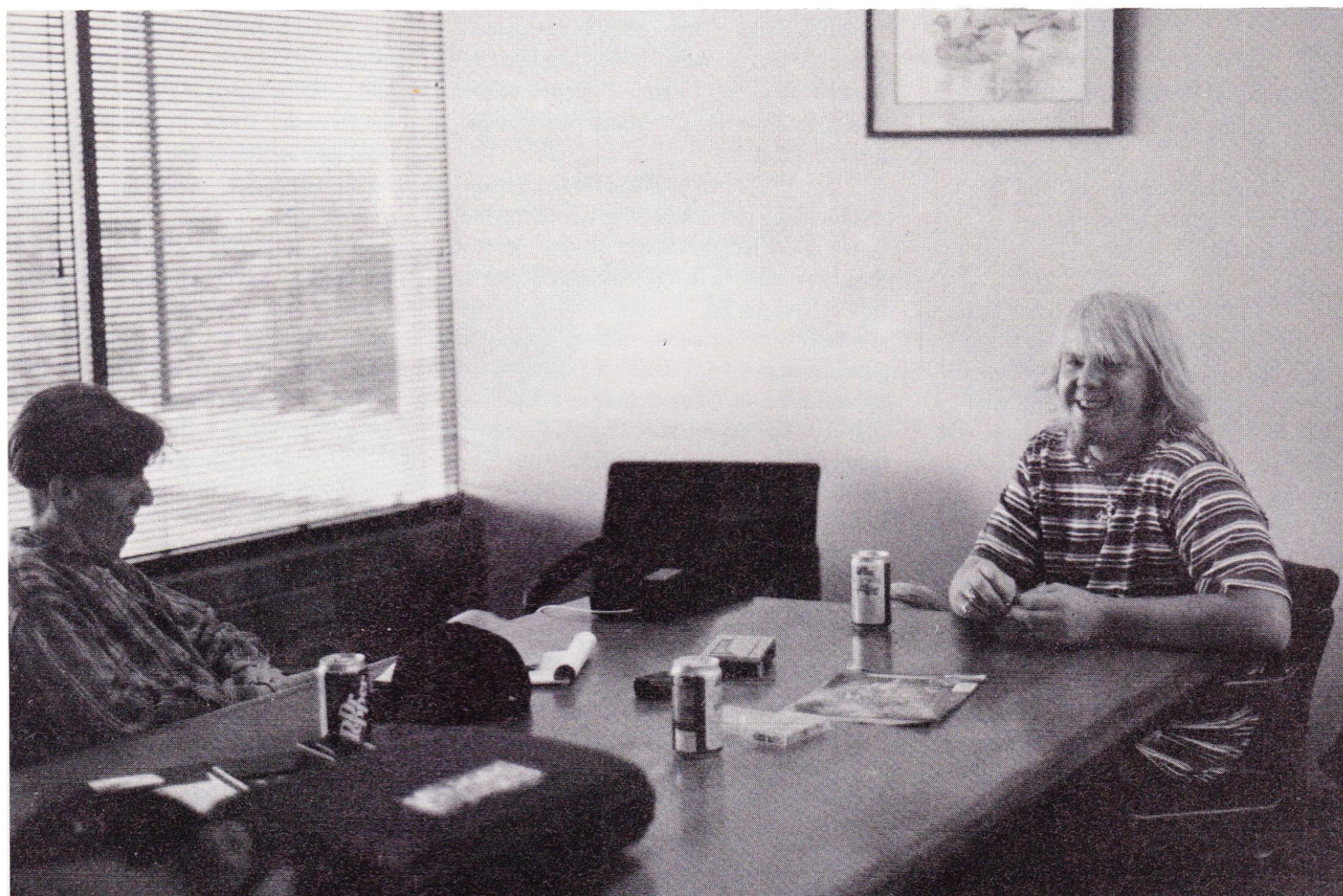
"This is a call to arms to the bands, the people that listen to the bands, to the youth workers. The world has some serious problems, and if the Christians aren't gonna help solve them, then they're just part of the problem. And that indeed has been the case. I'm anti-abortion, really, in a big way; but I'd like to see the fervor from Operation Rescue directed in some other causes as well." HM



Sim (Photo by Larry Bolen)

Breaking On Through With Randy Rose

By Jason Dyer



Jason (left) interviewing Randy at the FMG offices
(Photoby Ricky Thompson)

In a first-of-its-kind contest, Jason Dyer (who thought his friends were playing a joke on him when he was told he was the winner) won the prize of spending an "Intense day with Randy Rose as a Heaven's Metal staff writer." Jason got to ask the questions and Heaven's Metal has printed the answers here. As reported in the Metal Tracks last issue, Jason was joined by Randy Rose, Heaven's Metal editor Doug Van Pelt and his wife, and several members of the Frontline/Intense staff at a local mission to help prepare and serve a hot meal to dozens of homeless people in Santa Ana, California. Not the kind of glittery, star-studded activity of an MTV contest, but it seemed more Christ-like to spend a contest serving rather than being served.

Besides having a great chance to get to know the real Randy Rose with no pretense, Jason had an opportunity to see Randy and band (known simply as "Rose" in some circles) perform that night, along with Saviour Machine and Wailing Wall. Before the concert started, Jason sat down with Randy and the ever-faithful Heaven's Metal tape recorder caught the conversation. Check it out.

****Tell us about your past in getting started in the music ministry.**

"The music ministry started about six and a half years ago," replied Randy, "but even before that Roger, my brother, Mike Pendleton and myself were playing copy tunes of old Undercover songs in our little recording studios. To be honest with you, Undercover is what started it for me, as far as the Christian rock scene. I used to be a fan of Sweet Comfort, The Archers and stuff, when that was all there was; and then Undercover came out. I was going, 'Wow, there's such a thing as Christian rock!' We started playing and writing music similar to that style and enjoying seeing all the concerts. That's when the Christian music saturation was happening down in Southern California down at Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa.

"We started doing our thing for a while as a band called "Eye Witness," that really didn't go anywhere. We sort of had to beg to play, kind of thing. After that we took a summer off and started writing some stuff that was happening on a station down here called K-ROQ, which was a very on-the-edge, kind of alternative station. We started doing the Depeche Mode, Pet Shop Boys, electronic kind of thing.

"We made a demo of that and sent it to two record companies. The first one was Sparrow, Steve Taylor's label. They said,

'We'd love to sign ya, but it would be in competition with Steve Taylor, and he's our priority; but the next place you send it to will probably sign ya.' The next place we sent it to was Frontline and they signed us instantly. That's how Mad At The World started.

"I've been doing some songwriting and singing and drumming on almost every Mad At The World album. Mad At The World will do three or four fly-out festivals a year, and that's pretty much the extent of what MATW does. That was part of the motivation for me doing the solo thing. People noticed I was doing more and more singing on every album and a lot of people said, 'You ought to do a solo album and do some of this stuff.' I love playing drums, but I like being up front. There's a lot more communication with people. My solo effort is a big priority to me."

****Do you try and write in a different style for Mad At The World than for your own albums?**

"No, not really. There's a song on 'THROUGH THE FOREST' that I wrote, called 'Trapped.' I basically wrote it for my next album, but Roger liked it a lot. He was a little bit low on songs and he loved it and I said, 'Okay, let's go ahead and do it.' I don't

try to write 'em different. I try to write 'em maybe a little more the Mad At The World style than my own, but I pretty much write my music to a standard sound."

****Who has been your major influences while creating your new music?**

"For Christian music, it goes back to Undercover. They sparked a flame in me. They'd be pumping out a concert and then whip open the Bible... I liked seeing that. Music-wise, Christian music: there's a band called Trouble. They're marginally Christian, but they are Christians. There's not too much that I take from Christian music influential-wise, unfortunately. There's not too many people doing what I really like."

****Did you get the idea to track the thunderstorm on the beginning of "Sacrificium" from The Doors' "Riders on the Storm?"**

"Not only did I get that idea, but I took it right from the song. That's literally where that storm is from. The reason why I did that is it reminded me of when the 'midnight in the middle of the day' thing happens, which reminds me of Christ's death on the cross and how intense that was. I thought, 'Where can I get the thunder from? There it is!' If rap people can do it, I can do it

too (laughs)."

****Spiritually, who do you feel you're reaching out to most?**

"Spiritually, I think we're reaching out to the silent minority, like the satanic ritual abuse survivors that really don't have enough nerve or are too scared to say what's really happening in their life. A lot of the people that cut themselves, the self-mutilation victims, the beat children, the drug addicts, the prostitutes... Basically, the shame of the world, or at least what the world would view it as."

****What are your goals on the new album?**

"My goals on the new album are to continue to reach out to the people that really need Christ, the people that are going to be on the frontline fighting. If they're not a Christian, they're gonna be that kind of personality that's gonna be abrasive, rough and dangerous. Some of the same thing happens when they're a Christian: they're on the frontline. Maybe they're a little more controversial. Maybe they're doing a Christian thrash band. Maybe they're doing an outreach to the homeless. I think that kind of personality carries over."

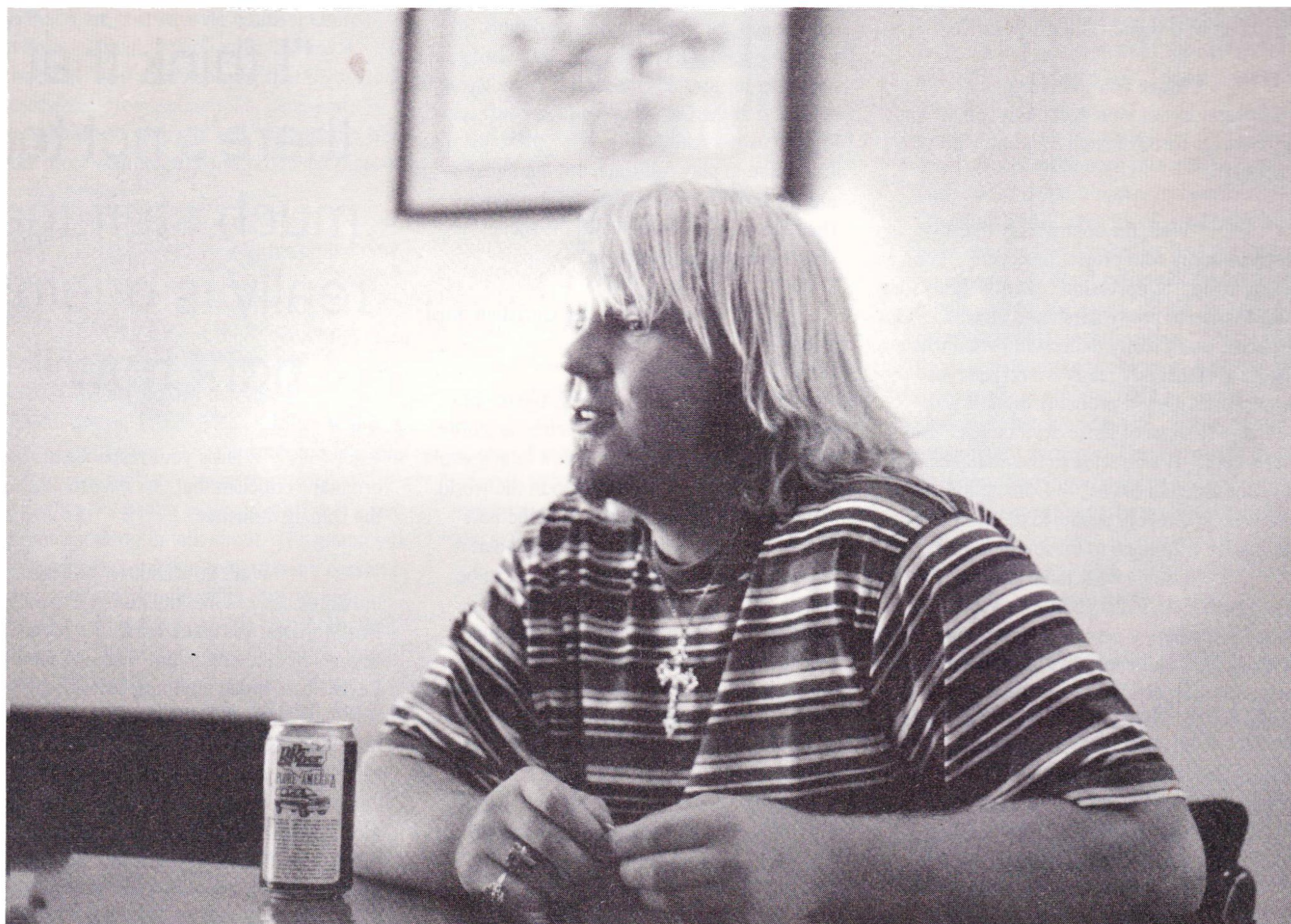
****Referring to the song "I Was**

Alive," was there a particular abortion incident which caused you to write against it?

"It wasn't any particular abortion. It was the issue. One thing that did influence that song was my oldest brother, Ray Rose. He had his baby about two years ago--Ray Rose Junior. He was the first kid I really got to see from a real young age. Seeing him live, learning to walk, learning to talk, learning to crawl, just seeing how much of an actual human being he is... He's a miniature human being. I was going, 'Man, I can't believe that legally this baby can be killed while in the womb. The difference is literally an hour. A person can be pregnant and can have the baby. A couple weeks before that, it's an abortion and it's okay, but it's murder after that.' I think it's murder all the way around."

****Do you plan to ever record any videos in the near future?**

"That's up to Frontline, to be honest with you. If they're into doing something like that, I could be into that. I think it could be a great opportunity, but I think people are going to have to be able to take in Christian videos. There's a hardcore station down here called KNAC and, unfortunately, if they know it's a Christian band, they really won't play it. I have a feeling that the same thing is going to apply to the





A brunette Randy with Mad At The World

video world, so I don't want to do things that are gonna be a waste. But it's possible."

****Have you received much controversy about your bold, non-compromising message through songs, and how do you react to that?**

"Well, the controversy that I've received in my solo project has been: 'Your songs, 'Pain,' 'Oppression,' 'Death' (are) song titles that seem pretty harsh and violent.' A lot of people don't really understand what it's about. If somebody really would read just those words, they'd probably think it was satanic. 'It's one of those devil bands.' But that's not it. It's directed to the audience that is gonna listen to Slayer, to Danzig, to Black Sabbath. It's totally designed to be a Christian alternative with hope to those exact scenes."

"I don't want to be a prophet of doom with 'SACRIFICIUM' or anything I've done. I'm a happy person. I'm not miserable at all, but my audience, in a lot of cases, is very miserable. Especially the potential people that would be into that kind of music. That's who it's for. So, if it doesn't apply to a certain person, that's understandable."

****What is the hardest and easiest thing about your music and ministry?**

"The easiest thing is songwriting. I

can get inspired by just driving to work. I can see someone or see a situation and think of something and it inspires me. Songwriting is very easy for me. The hardest thing is trying to be on top of the Christian music concert scene. Right now it's really tight. It's hard to get into it. I'd like to play full-time, but the facilities and the promoters aren't there right now. They're sort of burned out on the scene. That's the frustrating and hardest part."

****Where do you see Christian music going?**

"Generally speaking, the talent is there. A lot of times the production is a little bit lacking, but is there. I think it totally could be out there. There is no reason in the world that Christian music shouldn't be the best music out there. I think it's a shame that a majority of the hot bands are satanic, to be honest with ya. I know that's a little bit controversial, but musically speaking that seems to be the case right now. I think if people have enough drive to get out there and play and have people notice them, they have no choice but to respect 'em and give 'em what they deserve."

****What's the major reason for not going on a bigger tour?**

"Well, I'm not going to tour until I

have the second album under my belt. I'd like to have at least two hours of music. Right now my set is 48 minutes and a half, and that's just not gonna cut it. 'Alright, let's drive out real far and pay a bunch of money for a 50-minute set.' They usually want a two hour set. So, after this new album is released, I will start touring."

****Do you have any things to say to bands trying to get started?**

"Yeah, I do. I want to encourage other Christian bands out there to stand up for what they believe in. For new bands, I'd say, 'Stick with it. Use the talent God gave you. Don't be a Jonah. Don't walk away from something God's showing you (that) you should do.' We need a lot more quality Christian music out there, because if there's not a Christian alternative, unfortunately, the Christian kid who likes music is going to listen to the style of music he or she likes. That's sad but true."

"Some people say, 'How dare you even take the musical style of Danzig and be influenced musically by that. If there was a Christian band doing that, I never would've given it the time of day. I don't want to give these secular bands the time of day. I want to create a Christian force in music that blows the secular stuff off the Earth. I'm tired of Christian music taking the back seat. It should be right up there on top of it.'"

"I think that there's not too much stuff that really is original right now."

****What's your response to the "Be original" criticism that you may receive due to the Danzig influence?**

"Well, how Danzig influences me is only musically. I like the marriage between a Jim Morrison voice and hard 70's rock, and that's what they're doing. The first album that I ever heard doing anything like Danzig was The Cult's 'ELECTRIC.' They (Danzig) didn't really create that style. I've really liked that style of music for a long time. I love his voice. He's a great singer. As a matter of fact, God gave him that voice. He's just using it for Satan, unfortunately. Lyrically, they're garbage--and that's why I like to provide an alternative to people that are going to listen to

that music.

"The 'be original' criticism is okay. I think sometimes originality is great, but I think that there's not too much stuff that really is original right now. When I hear a band, I go, 'Oh, that's cool, because that reminds me of the Chili Peppers,' or 'That's cool, because that sorta sounds like old Black Sabbath,' or 'You sound like Depeche Mode, that's cool.' You're always bringing in these things. Everything is a big influential thing. I don't want to do a 'deface the music' kind of thing with Danzig. I didn't intend to do that. It's the style of music that I like. As far as being more original, you will find a little more variety on the new album. It's not gonna be like a 'Danzig 2' necessarily."

****What do you consider your best piece written?**

"Melodically, my favorite thing I've written is off the new (MATW) album, called 'Alone.' It's really melodic and nice. It sort of haunts you, it's so nice. Hard stuff, I like 'Black Harvest.' I think my favorite stuff is yet to come, and will be on the new album."

****Do you have any strange chord progressions you use?**

"Oh yeah! As far as I know, I'm the only person doing them in Christian music. I do the E to B-flat constantly. You'll see me do that a lot. I always do monster chords. Every song is in the key of E. I know it's easy. I'm doing stuff that's simple, that's hopefully accessible. Nothing complex here, just straight-ahead rock and roll. The album was a little more compressed and produced than what we do live."

****How are your lyrics on the new album?**

"The lyrics I think are a little more controversial, a little more forward, but they have a little more hope than the last album did. The answer to 'SACRIFICIUM' lies in the title track. The answer of the new album is gonna be found in probably every third song. Lyrically, it's gonna be about stuff that's not the easiest thing to talk about. It's gonna talk about suicide. It has a song about a person I know, my girlfriend's sister overdosing on drugs and almost dying. It's called 'Hooked.' It's gonna talk about a friend of my girlfriend, about self-mutilation. It's called 'Kitty.'"

"It's gonna talk about a lot of real harsh issues, but unfortunately there's those people that are doing that kind of thing every night and not too many people are doing too much to reach out to them. They need to know that they're not freaks. They're abused and they're lied to by Satan, but they're not freaks. They're human beings that have an opportu-

nity to live and love God, just as anybody else does. They're just real silent and they're the kind of people that can't just say it. You know, like the satanic ritual abuse survivor can't just say, 'Yeah, my dad cuts me at night,' or 'I witness sacrifices every Saturday' and stuff like that. They can't just say that. They keep it quiet and they end up dying inside until they turn out to be a freak, and that's how it happens.

"Musically, the new album is more dry, more rock. It's more in-your-face. There's more variety to it. It has a little more of the 70's feel to it. More of a dry, hard rock-verses heavy metal--kind of feel to it. Vocally, it's similar. Maybe it's a little more Jim Morrison-ish. It has a couple blues songs on it too. I'm going to be producing this album, so you're going to find a big difference in the sound. It's going to be the 'Rick Ruben, bone-dry 70's sound,' totally in-your-face. We've done away with the mega-distortion that eight rows back turned into a big fuzzball. It's more tight and we have a full band playing it."

****What makes you want to track your own voice over yourself, instead of having backups in a lot of songs?**

"Sometimes evidence for God is the nightmare you see in this world."

"I don't know. I'm sort of into unison. For backup vocals, I always thought it was cool when the lead vocalist would double what he's doing. It sort of haunts you. Of course, I can't do that live, but I sort of like the sound. When you try and create a sound, in my opinion, it's good to have little elements of the sound everywhere."

****Do you ever plan to be on a mainstream label?**

"No, I don't, because I really think to do that, you'd have to be into that scene. To be honest with ya, I think you have to be a drug addict loser to sign on a secular label in the first place. You have to be into that scene. I'd like to be distributed everywhere humanly possible. I'd like for Christian music to get to

the point to where I could quit my job and do it full-time, but a lot of people can't do that.

"My audience is definitely not everybody in the world. It's more of the crowd that's into the dark, black scene. Those kind of people don't always walk into Christian bookstores and say, 'That looks like an interesting album.' A lot of our audience aren't even Christians, I found out. I went to Cornerstone and was talking to people, who said, 'Yeah man, I'm not even Christian and this stuff is like the only thing I can listen to.' That made me feel good, because that's exactly who I did it for, so they wouldn't have to be polluted by the garbage."

****What keeps you in focus?**

"Seriously, just my love and faith in Jesus. That's the only thing. The only thing real in this world is Jesus, my family and the people I love. Everything else just blows away and dies. It's so phoney. Every aspect of life on this earth shows the truth of Christ. Just the fact how we get old and crusty and die and there's diseases. It just shows ya that we're not meant to stay in this body forever. This world and what it offers is not worth investing these 75 years in. I'm investing in the end, what I'm going to see when I die, and that's going to be God."

"I don't have to go to Hell to know it's hot. Sometimes evidence for God is the nightmare you see in this world. There's good and evil in this world and there's a heaven and there's a hell. I see a lot of the hell going around and it scares me. I don't want to be of that."

"The big reason for that is that you and I, Jason, were born into great Christian families. It doesn't make you any better of a Christian and all, but all of our family has never smoked or drank or had sex before marriage. We don't believe in that, which was totally just by the grace of God by giving us parents that can install values. That's what I think is part of the problem in America today: there really is nothing right or wrong. Nothing's black and white. It's all this big, mushy grey garbage. There goes the theme to my song 'Marshmallow Land' again: when you're in that grey garbage, the choice has been made (for you), unless you choose to step out of it and serve God. That's sort of what I write a lot of lyrics about."

****Any closing comments?**

"Roger has a solo album probably coming out next year, doing the keyboard stuff probably. Look for my new album probably in December and January. We're a full band and we can take off and do a tour and come back and still have jobs, so if people are interested in having us play we can come do it. That's about it."

HM

The Home of The Brave

By "Pastor for the Master" David S. Hart

It was turning into a really frantic week for me. I was asked to do a funeral by a friend whose grandmother had died over the weekend. Then I got a last minute call to do an editing job on a magazine. On top of it all, I found out that The Brave was going to be in town on the same night that Whitecross and Crystavox were playing at the other end of town. And I found all this out before noon on Monday! (If you think it's easy being a pastor because we only work one day a week--forget it!!!)

I couldn't be at both concerts at the same time, but I had heard all of this great stuff about The Brave (especially from Helen, one of my good friends and one of their biggest fans). I decided that I really needed to meet them. I managed to snag an hour or so from them during the afternoon while they were setting up. Usually James (Salters - lead singer) and Stayce (Roberts - guitarist) do the interviews, but they were both tied up. So I got to talk to the "quiet ones," who weren't really so quiet after all.

This band is so new to me that I need to have them fill me in on a little history. Malcolm (Paris - bass) and Stayce had a pretty successful stint as Top 40 rockers in Texas back in the mid-1980's. But when they came out to try their luck in the "glamorous" club scene in Los Angeles, they ran into a brick wall. Malcolm went back to Texas pretty discouraged and ended up recommitting his life to Christ. He heard God tell him to go back to California. He got there to find that Stayce had also given his life to Christ. They decided it was time to make music God's way.

Singer James Salters adds some age and depth to the group. James is a little older than the other guys, a painting contractor who's married with three children. He's also a fourth generation preacher's kid--even his uncles are preachers. You can hear it when he explains the Gospel or the ministry of the band.

At the other end of the scale was Stayce's little brother, Robert, who first got involved with the band when he was only in the eighth grade. But it was some years before he perfected his drumming and his faith enough to be a full-fledged member of the band. Later they heard a talented young guitarist from Hawaii named Freddie Tierra. Freddie was looking for a dedicated group of Christians and joined eagerly. He was only seventeen at the time.

At first they called themselves FAXX and did lots of gigs around Southern California between 1988 and 1990. Then in 1989, tragedy struck as Stayce was caught in a



near-fatal auto accident. The doctors determined that he would never play again. But, through prayer and faith and determination, Stayce eventually recovered completely. The trials of those times gave the band a deeper sense of their purpose and firmer hold on their faith.

When John Elefante caught the band at a county fair in January, 1991, he decided to keep tabs on them for awhile. When A&R man, Ron Golner, saw them at Gazzari's nearly a year later, he realized they were ready to do some powerful ministry. They were signed to Pakaderm Records in February, 1992. They changed their name to The Brave and got an album ("BATTLE CRIES") out by August. When you're ready, you're ready.

For all the dramatic changes in the last year, there wasn't a hint of propped-up pride or the "rock star" attitude. "We just want to preach Christ. We're not called to be rock stars. Some of the bands we've seen, if there was only two kids out there, they'd say, 'Shine it, it's not worth it.' But we're just going to play with all our hearts, because one

of those two kids might get saved. And if there's nobody out there--then just preach to the mice. That's just what we're called to do," says Randy.

What really impressed me was the genuine loyalty these guys had for each other. "If you hang out with us, you're going to find five guys who would do anything for each other," says Randy. "And when we're out on tour, we're on the buddy system. We're always going to make sure there's two of us together, so one person can't go walking off alone and fall into something."

"Even when we're not playing gigs, we're still hanging out together," adds Freddie. Four of the five guys even work together at the same guitar store, where they often get to share the Gospel. These guys really do work, play and make music together--now that's togetherness.

This band has a profound sense of accountability. They actively seek as many people praying for the band as possible. They all attend the same church in Lancaster, California. They are accountable to several ministers, including James' dad. In a time

when public figures in the church are falling left and right, it's refreshing to see such simple wisdom. "Satan's entire goal is to see us fall and then ridicule us before the world. So, what better way to prevent that than to just stick together and watch each other's backs--spiritually. We totally depend on God. We know we can't do this thing alone."

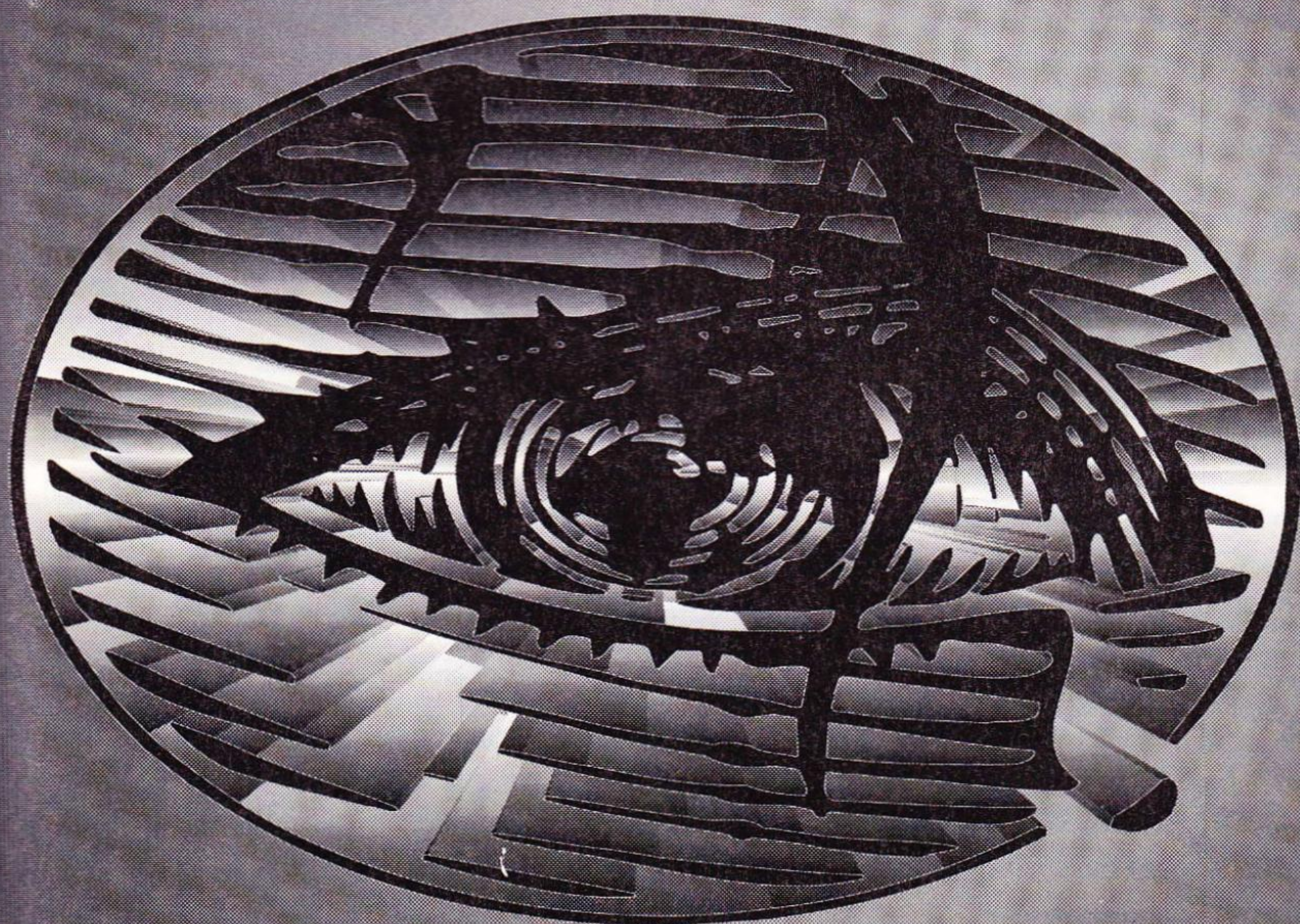
As the guys are called back to rehearsal, I ask for any last thoughts. Malcolm shares his heart a little: "We are mainly just trying to be a good example for Christ. Paul said, 'Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.' (I Corinthians 11:1, NIV). We've had really good relationships with the clubs in Hollywood, because we work at being a good example of Christ. A lot of the secular bands we play with tell us, 'We need more guys like you in this business.' We expect to continue being examples of Christ no matter what we do or where we go."

Helen was right. It was really worth the effort to take some time with these guys. If their concert is as effective as their testimony, then a lot of kids in America are going to learn that God's kingdom is truly the land of the free and the home of The Brave. HM



L to R: Malcolm, Randy, Freddie, James & Stayce
Photo by Larry Bolen

Weeping Prophet



Photos by:
Du Lake

"Heavy, thundering thrash...
Hefty songwriting and fast riffing abounds."
- Heaven's Metal

*Music for your mind
Music for your soul*

For booking or info call (216) 733-2658
To order demo send \$6 to:
P.O. Box 9106
Akron, OH 44305

What Corrosion of Conformity Sez:

This issue our “What So and So Sez” column brings us to a conversation with Karl Agell of Corrosion of Conformity. Read on and find out what fuels the lead vocalist of this infamous band.

****What kind of changes have you guys seen in the whole genre you play in?**

“Well, let me start off by saying that it’s a question of our background,” explains Karl. We come from this old punk rock school of doing-it-yourself. Part of this whole thing is us learning to play its instruments and not coming out of that guitar-worship thing, but just going for it, ya know—the whole hardcore mindset. Now, it seems that the music industry has caught up with that kind of school, or the evolution of that school. There’s a lot of bands that came out of that and are doing really well for themselves now. That kind of attitude and music was unacceptable to the music industry and public years ago, but now it seems to be the rage.”

****How does it affect you now that the industry is working for you guys?**

“I guess C.O.C. is ready to kinda take it to the rest of the planet, instead of just dealing with our backyard. Unfortunately, sometimes you’ve gotta make some compromises and use some middle-men when you have to get your ideas across. I think it’s very naive that one can remain pure and unaffected and just kind of psychically bring one’s ideas and music across. It’s an imperfect world. I mean, we’re all human beings. I mentioned that whole school of do-it-yourself: people respect the kind of control and attitude that we have. I think that they recognize it and are into it.

“I’m still saying the same things. I’m not driving any expensive cars at this point. That’s not what it’s about. It’s about speaking our minds and playing the music that we want to play. If there’s people out there that want to help us out, that’s great.”

****As far as conformity goes, what do you see as one of the major pitfalls of, let’s say, western society kind of having an “air of conformity” about it?**

“Oh man, do you have a few days? (laughs) It’s the notion that there’s a system that needs to be followed. We wake up, we’re born, whatever, and we follow certain ground rules spoken and unspoken; go through the school system, get processed either through vocational or college, enter the work force and do our nine-to-five, Monday through Friday or whatever. That’s how we live our lives and we retire at 65 and that’s it. I don’t buy that that’s gotta be the way things are.

“The value system that this country has...this country was founded by puritans, you know, who came over here escaping religious persecution; but then, in turn, persecuted the people that allowed them to stay here. So, we’re living in a post-slave society. It’s a very violent, aggressive nation that we live in, and a lot of that filters down and has a profound effect on how we live our lives each day. We turn on the television and it’s all

around us. Gosh, I don’t know what I’m saying, really. It’s just that—western society, you know, it’s a very narrow view of how to live life, I think. There’s a lot of limitations, a lot of boundaries and a lot of really twisted traditions that have been somehow worked into the framework. We’re asked to live up to it, and I don’t think a lot of it makes sense.

“The entrenched political system of this country, and the fact that we’re more and more losing civil rights and women are losing rights over their own bodies, and housing and education and everything is on the decline... For us, the reason we’re saying what we’re saying is: it’s not getting better, it’s getting worse. C.O.C. is actually a band that abhors politics. We hate politics. We’d rather do something else, but, unless you pay attention to politics and speak about what’s going on, you’re going to become a victim of the circumstances. I think the trick is: in order to live a happy, fulfilled life, you have to deal with what stands in the way of living that kind of life. That’s why we talk about what we talk. That’s how I feel. Things have always been bad since the dawn of time. There’s always been a bully or somebody in power who wishes to retain that power. We’re not saying

that, by saying what we’re saying or playing what we’re playing, that we’re going to change the world, but I think that we feel: ‘Why ruin well-crafted songs by singing about inane things or talking about really meaningless subjects?’ I guess we feel better if we try at least. We’re aware that we can’t change everything, but at least we can try.”

****I was going to ask this question, but you’ve already answered it: Do you see yourself more as artists affecting change, or just reflecting what’s going on around you?**

“I think it’s a dual thing. You can’t do one without the other. We don’t exist in a vacuum. We’re human beings and, thus, we’re imperfect and we are much to blame for a lot of the shortcomings; as we are critical of them, too. You can’t divorce yourself from society if you’re going to deal with it. Our stuff reflects something that’s gone on since the dawn of time and is continuing. There’s always going to be war and poverty and all that. We are artists striving for change, too. I don’t know. It’s hard to say. What it comes down to is people don’t really accept what you say unless



Clockwise from top: Woody Weatherman, Phil Swisher, Karl Agell, Reed Mullin & Pepper Keenan (foto: Kristin Callahan)

they feel something personal, like financial hardship or handicap or they have a life-threatening situation. People are very slow to change in this country. We're all guilty sometimes. That's human nature.

"What it is: now we're living like rats in cages on top of each other. Technology has caught up with us and the population's increasing. The statistics are getting worse on all levels. That's why it's more urgent now than ever. There's always been problems, but now there's an actual chance that there's not gonna be any resources left--no air left to breathe--rights taken away, (rights) you should be born with, that I take for granted, but you can't take for granted anymore. So, now more than ever it's time to wake up and change things if we can. I don't know if it's our place to tell people what to do, really. I'd like to credit people with more intelligence, but unfortunately common sense doesn't seem to be that common.

"Let's not, although we do this too, divorce ourselves from the musical aspect either. There's nothing better than going up on stage and singing my guts out or whatever. That's life, that's living. We're expressing our lust for life by playing and bringing music to people. It's all intertwined. One's not necessarily a vehicle for the other, they just kind of are."

**What do you think of Jesus Christ?

"What do I think of Jesus Christ? Why do you ask that? I'm curious."

**Why? Well, to really get your response. I could elaborate more and kind of give you more background on where I'm coming from and where my magazine is headed...But, do you want that information, or not?

"Okay. I'll give you my side and you can give me your side. Have you read the lyrics on our record?"

**No.

"There's a song on there called 'Mine are the Eyes of God.' It's not an anti-religious song. It's interesting how people interpret it. The fact is, for me personally, it's hard to put everyone in the band in a position like they follow exactly what I believe.

"What do I think of Jesus Christ?, let me see: I think that we, as a public, have been deceived. It's a very complicated subject, because the church, going back--from what my understanding, I'm a history buff--is that things have been incredibly distorted as to when and where and what context He actually lived; and actually nailing down His actions to what He did, you know what I mean?

"I think the way in which the various organized Christian churches on this planet present their doctrines--they're so incredibly varied, it's like...so much of it is just shaped to what's convenient for you to believe. I think to truly understand anything about Jesus Christ, you have to be very in touch with the way of real history, because history is written by the conquerors. People are always gonna present their versions of what went on. For all we know...I mean, the Bible has been rewritten and rewritten by so many different people that there's so many interpretations. I mean, a lot of stuff has been lost in the

original Greek translations. So, I think it's really difficult to actually know exactly what went on. There's a lot of theories that the original church espoused reincarnation and that was changed by the Byzantine emperors in, like, 500 A.D. I mean, I can get into tons of stuff. No one really knows, I think. I guess the Golden Rule is to treat others the way you yourself would want to be treated. I think that's the Golden Rule (for) living all around. That's supposedly the true Christian ethic and I don't know if so many Christians actually live that way, you know. But that's what I believe.

"Are you bummed? What's your position. I'm curious."

**Well, I'm a Christian.

"Do you know what I mean by you saying that you are Christian and somebody down the street saying they are a Christian and you two guys could have nothing in common? I don't look down on anybody, man. I've got a lot of important, personal beliefs and feel very strong on spiritual beliefs. I just think a lot of the names that people put on what they believe are often...those names and titles and definitions put a lot of limitations on their beliefs."

**I think that the Golden Rule is like a system that really works. It's like a principle; and the person who follows Christ, a disciple, per se, is supposed to be living by that. If that's the case, then they would be tolerant--not necessarily compromise, where they have to believe everyone's beliefs, but they're tolerant--they don't hate, they love the people they disagree with, their enemies or whatever.

**"If there is
a Christian God, then,
whether or not people use
that name, it's by their
actions; not by their words."**

"That's what...It's hard to put a name on that, you know? Tolerance is something that should be taught, but unfortunately, violence is glorified and this human body is considered ugly or sinful. There's a lot of stuff that's really twisted ways of looking at the world. Intolerance is taught in this country, no tolerance for other cultures, or races so often."

**It's amazing sometimes how, uh...you know the song "Amazing Grace?" People who believe in the grace of God and believe that they're forgiven of their sins by a forgiving God, (yet) they turn around and they don't treat other people in their own camp with the same grace, just because they disagree about speaking in tongues or some doctrine...

"Right. People getting bogged down by definitions and details. I think it's pretty simple: live like you yourself would want to be treated. If there is, in fact, a Christian god, then, whether or not people use that name, but it's by their actions, not by their words. So that's the main thing. I just get very tired of these right-wing republicans kind of shooting off at the hip, their mouths running a mile a minute about how God is

white, American and a republican. And that's not what it's about.

"Any founding, creative force in the universe is bigger and stronger and way beyond any individual, you know? They have very, very trite and convenient little definitions of Heaven and Hell, you know? I don't think they take their current life and the people they're dealing with into consideration. Whatever, I think at the end of the day and at the end of our lives we each know what we've done and not done."

**You know in the Bible, where Jesus talks about the sheep and the goats and the people that don't, you know, clothe the naked, feed the hungry and visit those in prison, they will be cast into the fire? Do you think that's a true statement, that He really said that?

"Man, it's hard to say. I went to religious school all my life. I went to a Lutheran school from kindergarten to grade nine and a Catholic school in tenth grade. I used to get A's in all those classes. Not that it matters, but I've read quite a bit in the Bible and been exposed to different versions of Christianity, you know? It's hard to say. I don't know, somehow I think things come back to you and you pay for 'em. If you do good, it comes back to you. If you live by the sword it comes back to you too.

"I think a lot of that (what Jesus was saying) was extremely symbolic. I think that's the problem with interpretation over the years: what was actually meant by all these writings? I'm just curious, how did you come to your belief system? Was it out of school or...?

**Hmmm. A lot of it was by example. My parents went to a church that had like a youth group that were excited about God. When I went off and did my thing for about nine years a couple of scenes, where I saw those people stayed with me. I just kind of knew that they were the happiest people on Earth, and it kind of haunted me in a way. After several years of calling the shots and partying it up and all that, I just kind've realized that someday I was going to come back to that. I kind of figured that I would make things right with God right before the end of time. I kind of realized that I was just playing games with Him and just kind of, I guess, surrendered to Him and kind of intellectually was convinced by looking at history and different debates on the resurrection and the claims of Christ. So, intellectually I was convinced, as well as emotionally, and have had spiritual experiences as far as feeling like God was really dealing with me on a personal basis. That's kind of my intro to that, I guess.

"You know, I believe personally in a collective conscience of humanity, like a union look at the world, like that all cultures in some way reflect that kind of belief system: that there's a hero of a thousand faces. There's always in each mythology or culture or belief system a similar hero or prophet or so on. To put one name on it is short-sighted.

"We have a song called 'Great Purification,' which is about the end of the world. It's based on Hopi prophecy. Our bassist, Phil Swisher, wrote it. The thing with the Hopi prophecies, which counters the western belief system, which is so left and right, black and white, this and that, so polarized... Almost all cultures believe that the last world was destroyed by a

flood. Including, obviously the Judeo-Christian one. The Hopi's believe that as well.

"If you wanna look at history, there was a huge ice age about 6,000 years ago, when all the ice melted and all the water levels went up and mass civilizations were destroyed and there were peoples and animals and all that. The Christians have one interpretation of it. The Hopi's believe that the next world is going to be destroyed by fire. I guess a lot of Christian prophecy is the same. The thing with the Hopi's is they believe that no prophecy is set in stone. Just because it is so prophesied doesn't mean that humans can't rise to the occasion and try to better themselves and change things.

"So often (you hear) that kind of Calvinistic, puritanical, set-in-stone, 'Ah, you're gonna burn in Hell' and 'This is gonna happen. It's pre-destiny' and all that. It's very limiting and doesn't give you much hope for change. Why should anybody want to change if they feel they can't effect the future? Why should you even strive for anything if somebody says, 'You're gonna burn in Hell, pal.' Well, 'okay, fine. I'm gonna party it up. I'm going to be a royal a**hole all my life. I'm going to treat people like sh*t, it doesn't matter. I know I'm going to Hell.'

"With this way of looking at things, it's, I think, a lot better, a lot healthier. It means that collectively people can make a difference. That's how I like to look at it. So often, like I said before, with traditional Christian dogma and doctrines and stuff, they're so set in stone and don't leave any room for making mistakes and being forgiven or forgiving one's self and moving ahead. That's how I feel."

**To me, it kind of fits in with Christian philosophy, like with God and Jonah. He told him to go to Nineveh and He's going to destroy it, but He gave 'em the chance to repent and they repented and He didn't destroy Nineveh. To me it fits in that He always gives people a chance to change.

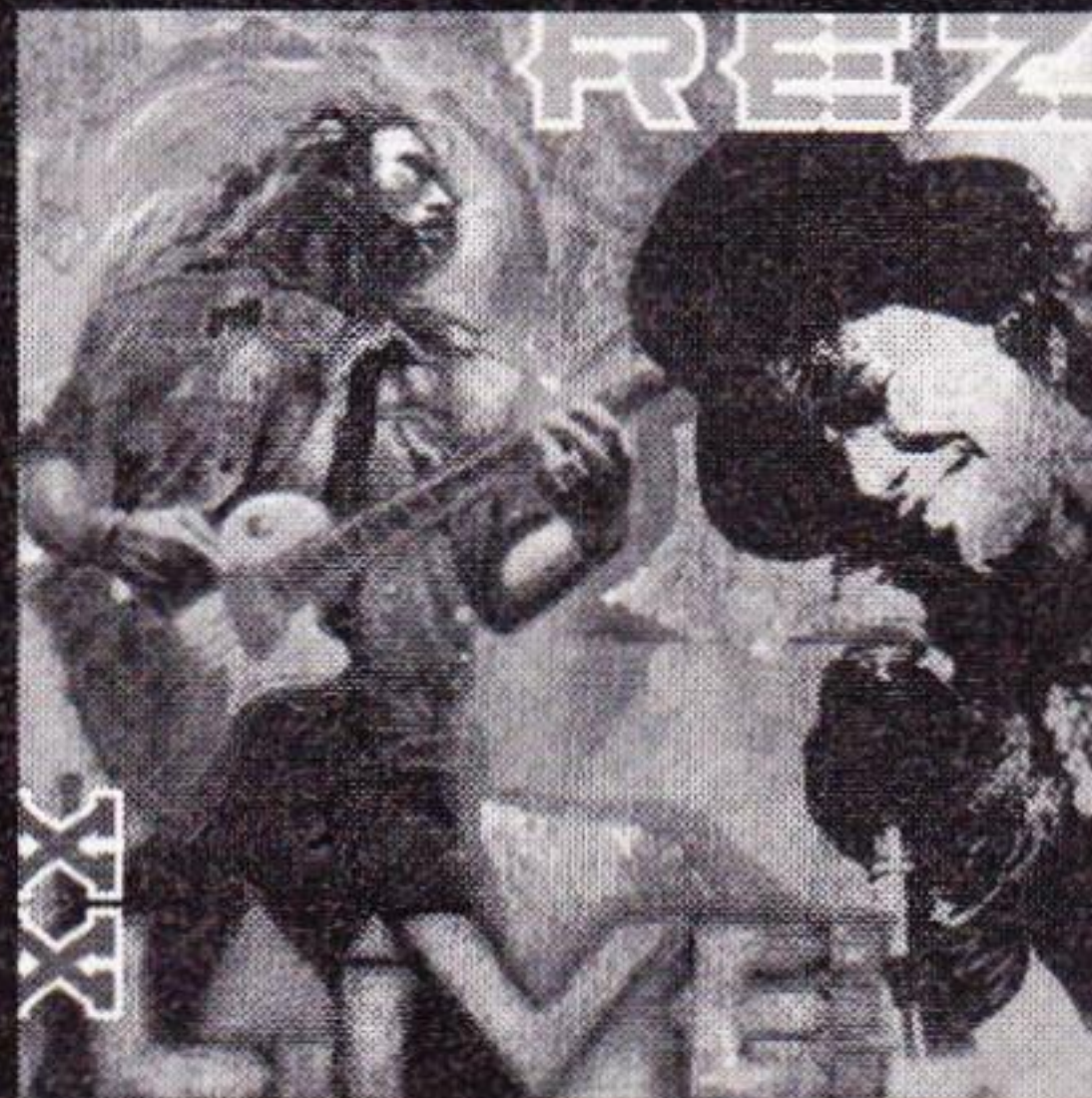
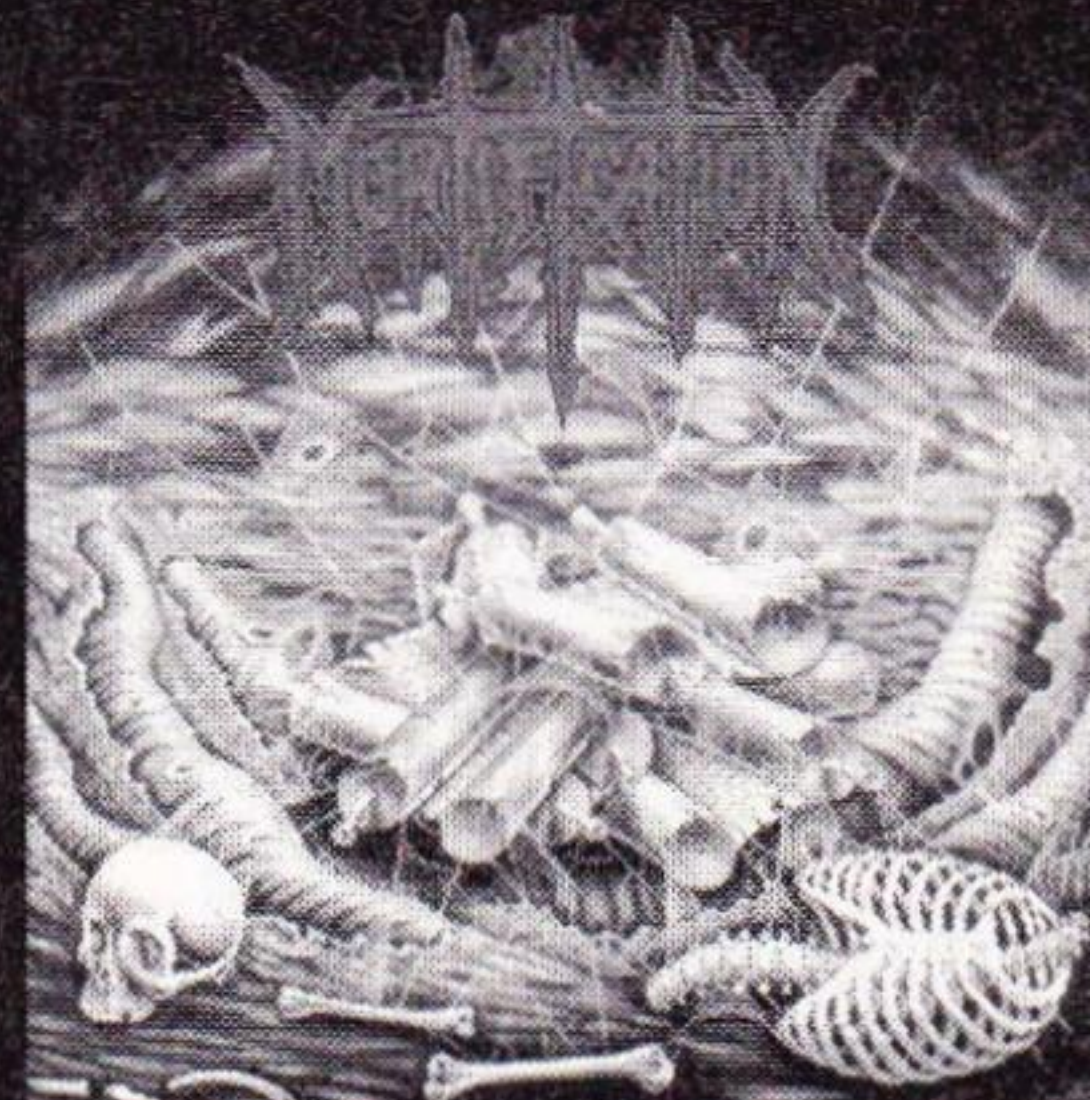
"But, you know, a lot of...I don't know. You're not a fundamentalist really, are you?

**Yeah, I don't go around calling myself a fundamentalist, because it has such narrow connotations to it, but I believe that the Bible is right, that it's proven. I believe that there's literal and allegorical interpretations of the Bible. You know, obviously, there's both; because Jesus wasn't talking about goats and sheep. He was talking about people. So, yeah I'm a fundamentalist, but I don't get on a soapbox and froth at the mouth and try to judge people. You know, sometimes I do by mistake, but I'm not a jerk, basically. At least I hope not.

Karl chuckles, "No, that's very interesting. I'm glad you're willing to talk to me about it and stuff. I'm curious. How do you feel about a band like C.O.C.? What's your initial impulse? I mean, obviously you're into hard rock."

**I haven't had a whole heck of a lot of exposure to you guys. I've never seen you guys live. I kind of know who you are and have kept up and know some of the bands in the scene. My first impressions, to be honest would be kind of like... And I don't say this in a...if I analyzed it, I would

true tunes etc...

DELIVERANCE
"stay of execution"

REZ
"20 years live"
double album set

MORTIFICATION
"scrolls of the megilloth"

\$6.99 cassette • \$10.99 CD
REZ double set \$12.99 • \$15.99, reg. \$17.99 • \$21.99
 Deliverance and Mortification regular \$10.99 • \$14.99



call or write today to
receive TRUE NEWS,
TTE's free music
magazine and catalog

210 West Front St., Wheaton, IL 60187
(708) 665-3866 • for credit card orders 1-800-669-TRUE

approach it much differently, but my first impulse is kind of like, "Well, they're kind of like, espousing the 'other side' kind of deal," and that's just a gut-level reaction. If I was going to speak to you and try to impress you, I would word it in a different way. That's an initial reaction I get, kind of like you may get when you see this Christian thrash band. You think, 'Wow, a bunch of Christians.' But I also see a lot of good things and, uh, the hardcore philosophy of not conforming to the pressures around you and being relatable and not being rock star gods and that whole deal about being real is just totally commendable. I think it's good.

"Man, that's the thing. To me, it's like, I should have the right to live my life and there should be something more important than having governments tell you what to do. Governments don't last. People do. I think that's a Christian philosophy too. In fact, the original Christians were considered complete anarchists and revolutionaries and were breaking away from the harsh rule of Roman law and their own persecution at home. People were victims of stonings and crucifixions. It was a rough time back then. It's a rough time now. It's a different thing. I think the whole notion is to stick to your beliefs, stick to your guns. They obviously did back then in the face of a lot of oppression.

"I think the time is now to get people to wake up and get with it. That's how I feel. I'd like to talk to you at great length about this stuff, because I have certain views, but this could go on forever and you could get a huge phone bill."

**I'd like to talk too. Heaven's Metal basically covers the Christian metal scene, although I deviate and talk with bands that don't fall under that heading, just to kind of get where they're coming from. Is there anything else that

you'd like to say?

"Well, I'd say, 'Keep an open mind. Don't necessarily jump the gun in terms of C.O.C.' Here you've talked to me and maybe realized I have more in my head and knew a little bit more about things than you might have initially thought. It's important not to become, in the way that you feel that you've been maltreated and had a finger pointed at you because of your beliefs, also don't be so quick to judge others.

"Often when one is... 'Okay I'm a Christian and I'm into metal, people are against me,' so you might end up walking around pointing a finger and hating a lot of people. I think the thing is to keep in mind that you're not necessarily any better or worse than anybody. You're just seeing things in your way at this given point in time. If you talk with intelligence and know what you're talking about with people and listen to other arguments, then the world would be a better place. You'll give people a chance to hear you out and you'll hear them out. I think all of us are too quick to jump into each other's throats and not give a chance for people to explain where they're coming from. It's important to hear all sides.

"Underneath all the titles and the definitions, we're all the same. We're all flesh and blood. That's the main thing to remember. We're all on the same mother Earth, living at the same time and we should try to realize our similarities, instead of our differences and try to make the world a better place. No matter what your philosophy is, it's gotta come down to that. We've gotta work it out together. Everything's up to us. Here we are. Don't think that other people are gonna take care of what you believe in. It's gotta be you.

"That's what I say. That's what I would relate to your readers. But anyhow, thanks for talking. It's good to exchange ideas. We can both learn a lot." **HM**

Meet Doug Middleton, Guitarist For 20/20 Blind...



Meet Doug's Wife, Terri...



Now, Meet The Other Love In Doug's Life!



ROBIN GUITARS... The most affordable
handcrafted guitar... *Made In America!*

ROBIN MEDLEY IV

For more information about Robin Guitars
write: Robin Guitars 4914 Dickson St. Unit B
Houston, Texas 77007 USA or call
(713) 863-1537 Fax (713) 861-1933
For your nearest Robin dealer.

Robin
GUITARS & BASSES
HOUSTON, TEXAS U.S.A

For more information about 20/20 BLIND write:
20/20 BLIND c/o Expression Music Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 711188, Houston, Texas 77271
*Get a 20/20 BLIND poster. Send \$5.00 to the
above address, price includes shipping and handling.*

METAL TRACKS

Our top story this issue is the miracle of birth! **Betrayal** guitarist Marcus Colon and his wife celebrate the birth of their child, Christian Nathaniel, who arrived on September 21st. Betrayal has played a few gigs in Southern Cal. recently, with **The Crucified** and **Precious Death**. The band has a new drummer in **Jeff Mason**. Guitarist Bob McCue reports that the band is in pre-production until March on the next album, which they'll record in April. They also have a new manager, Randy Watterworth, who's currently handling booking as well, while the band is looking for a booking agent. Interested promoters or people who can't find the band's debut album, can call Randy (805) 528-2551 or 528-7442.

King's X and Sam Taylor are no longer working together under the same arrangement. Sam, who's been a partner of King's X for six years will no longer manage or be in the partnership role with the band. He is currently in the studio with **The Galactic Cowboys** working on album #2. Hopeful release date for this one is early '93. King's X is now writing and working on a new album as well.

Tourniquet was one of the several bands on the Foundations Forum bill at Gazzari's nightclub in Hollywood. The "Foundations Forum" is an annual heavy metal convention put on by Concrete Marketing, where hundreds of secular record company personnel show up and schmooze and showcase their new talent. It's a lot like a mainstream, metallized GMA event. Tourniquet's presence there last year certainly helped nail their license deal with Metal Blade Records. A couple months ago the band played a Sanctuary benefit show where the band came out and played a cover of Deliverance's "**Weapons of Our Warfare**" and "**Ark of Suffering**," but something was definitely different this time. Handling lead vocals was Erik Mendez, on drums was Guy Ritter, on bass was Gary Linaire, and handling guitars was Victor Macias and Ted Kirkpatrick. What was most amazing about this was that this new "configuration of Tourniquet" was shredding with competence. "It sounded great!" reports "Pastor for the Master" Dave Hart. They played half of "**Ark...**" this way and then returned to the normal lineup. Drummer Ted Kirkpatrick is going to be featured in drumstick manufacturer Vic Firth's upcoming newsletter. The latest PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals) newsletter (sent out to over 350,000 people) also has an article on the band. Ted went to the mountains in Korea and the



rainforests in Taiwan and Hong Kong to write much of the lyrics for the new album-- "**PATHOGENIC OCULAR DISSONANCE**," which has 12 songs, one of which is 11 minutes long. Bill Metoyer is producing again.

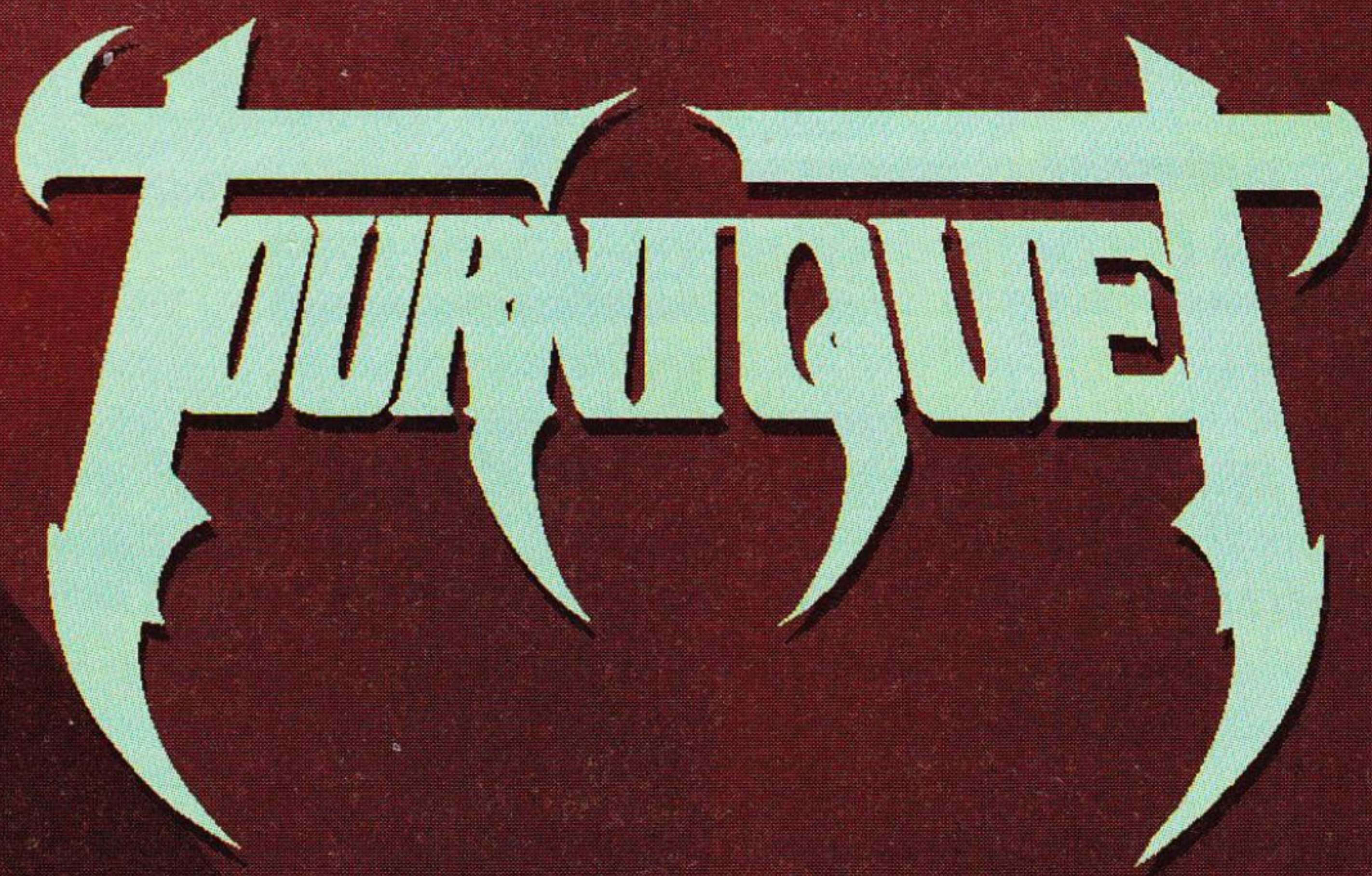
Houston act **20/20 Blind** wowed a huge hometown audience in September when opening up for **Whitecross** and **Whiteheart**. The band sounded very hot, coming across with a tight Queensryche sound and an "audience-friendly" attitude. One of the visual highlights of the show was when stage hands brought out two giant canvasses, which lead vocalist Wallace Chase put to use with a can of spray paint. On the left canvass he spelled out the word "pro," giving the audience time to anticipate the completion of the phrase "pro-life" with the second canvass. You'll be hearing more from this talented band if they keep it up. They're opening some dates for both Guardian and **Bloodgood** in Texas. Bloodgood is getting back out on the road in the most serious way since the infamous "**DETONATION**" tour. Like its predecessor, the band members are bringing their wives on the road. Pictured above is a photo of the current line-up, featuring new drummer Paul Rorabeck (L to R: Michael Bloodgood, Paul R, Les Carlsen & Paul Jackson). While in New York, the band got a gig at the infamous CBGB's.

Mortification has been signed by

Nuclear Blast Records in Germany. "It's really gonna be good for us to be on one of the full-on grindcore labels," says vocalist/bassist Steve Rowe. They were released on a compilation album this month with all the other bands on the label, including **Benediction**, **Dismember**, and **Pungent Stench**. "We'll also be released on a compilation video along with all those bands," says Steve, "which is called 'Death Is Just The Beginning.'" The label will be re-releasing "**SCROLLS OF THE MEGILLOTH**" this month. The label has also picked up the new "**GRIND PLANETS**" video by the band. It sounds like Nuclear Blast is really into Mortification. They're printing up 30,000 full-color posters of the band to send to tons of retailers, etc.

The band's recent Australian tour was a success, reports Steve. "We saw a couple of people saved. We're not a band that does altar calls at clubs and stuff. I spoke really bold from the stage one night, saying 'What would happen if you died tonight?' and 'Where would you go?' kind of thing. One guy was driving his two mates home and they said that what I had spoken about on the stage that night had touched their hearts and they wanted to accept Christ right away. Isn't that cool?" Indeed. Mortification is planning to tour the U.S. in June. Interested parties write the band at the Australian address printed on the album.

Guardian, who will be the feature



PATHOGENIC OCULAR DISSONANCE

A V A I L A B L E I N D E C E M B E R

DEDICATED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE

INTENSE
Records

FRONTLINE
FmG
MUSIC GROUP



Member of
God's Army

God's Army

24" Neckchain Included

NEW!

Metal Maniac



My Foot Is
On The Rock
And My Name
Is On The Roll



Yol Jesus
Said "GO"

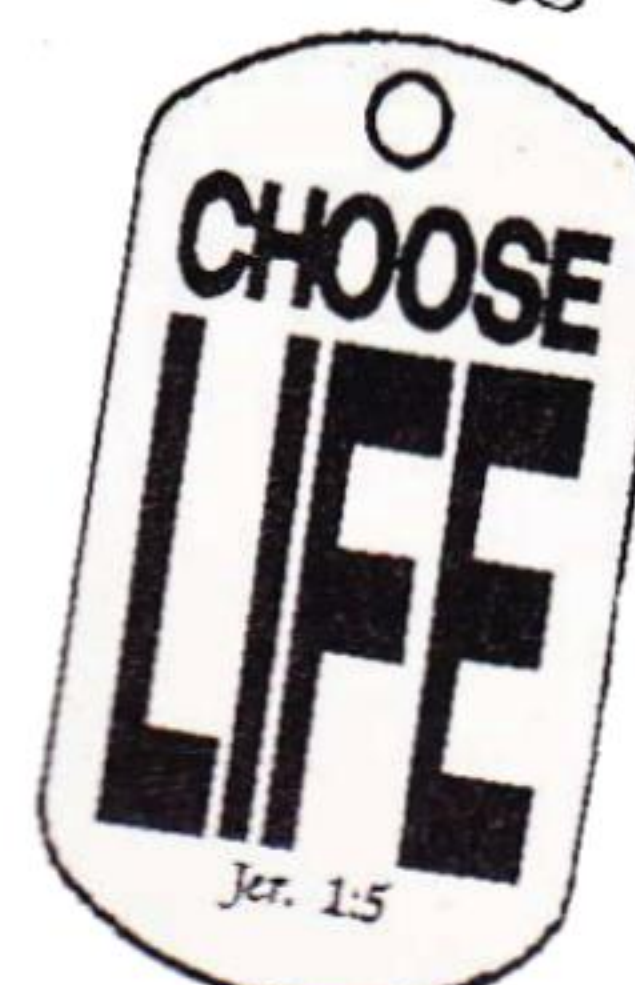


Friends Don't
Let Friends
Go To Hell

ONLY \$5.00 EACH
Tag Prices



Soldier Of
The Cross



Choose Life



Im The Christian.



God Is Awesome!



Metal Missionary

I.D. Tag W/4 Line Personal Imprint

Original NAIL Cross Necklaces

Your 4 line
imprint - 17
spaces per line
maximum

Enclose your exact imprint
wording with order form.

**\$ ONLY
7.00
EACH**

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

ONLY \$15.00 EACH
White, Black Or
Neon Pink Cross

NAIL Cross BOLOS

**\$ ONLY
15.00
EACH**

NAIL Earrings

**\$ ONLY
13.00
PAIR**

CHROME SPECIAL
Add \$2.00 Specify Chrome Cross
On Order Form

2 1/2" Cross
W/Necklace

Quantity	Item	(Specify Color If Needed)	Price	Total

Send Check
Or Money Order To:

Each Price Includes:

(Shipping - add 50¢ per piece ordered)




Shipping Total

Send Check
Or Money Order To:

(Shipping - add 50¢ per piece ordered) **Shipping**

**Eagle Distribution,
P.O. Box 87,
LeRoy, Ks. 66857**



Credit Card Orders, Call 1-(316)-964-2248

WAVE

ADDRESS

STY

PHONE 1

band in the first "Heaven's Metal Video Magazine," has been in the studio working on its follow-up to "FIRE AND LOVE." The guys spent two weeks in the middle of production to write lyrics. The band is playing its first-ever Texas dates this month. **Fear No Evil**, the band with the wild ad in the last issue, played a live show with **Crystavox** in Anaheim recently.

Michael Sweet is chuggin' along the path of solo artist-dom, crankin' out demos of his songs in his home studio. "I'm just waiting on God," says Michael. "I've been talking to three different labels and I just want to make sure it's right. I wanna go out there and do what Stryper's been doing." It looks like things may not work out with Michael Terrell in the band due to musical differences. Seems the ex-Mylon, ex-Doro Pesch guitarist wants to go in a decidedly heavier direction. "I'm going after the Bryan Adams type of sound," explains Mr. Sweet, "but a bit heavier, of course."

Underground/Independent bands who want secular distribution for its videos may want to contact Oden's Den at (508) 343-6474. **Dig Hay Zoose** will probably have a new album due out sometime next year.

Judgement, who was reviewed in Issue #36, has changed its name to **Final Judgement**. Those wanting to offer financial assistance to Hurricane Andrew victims may contact Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale at (305) 977-9673, or write: 2800 Gateway Drive, Pompano Beach FL 33069. A new Word-distributed label is forming soon in Austin, Texas. The once-great San Antonio, Texas band **Paradox** has broken up. Former guitar shredder (I've never seen another guitarist as close to the greatness of Uli Roth anywhere) and Zion Guitar endorsee, Fernando Hernandez, is looking for an established Christian metal band to join or form. (See ad in this issue's Trading Post for further info)

Novella debuted its "Heaven's On My Mind" video on CCM-TV, a new 30-minute Christian music video show on the Family Channel. **Seraiah** is returning to South America this month. They are being sponsored by the World's Fair, which is expecting crowds of 20,000, and they are the only American group featured. The band moved to Nashville and has a new mailing address: Seraiah, PO Box 150302, Nashville, TN 37217-0302.

Heaven's Metal reviewer and former **Stryken** drummer **Joey Knight** is forming a new acoustic trio with the guitarist (Jeff Moore) and vocalist (Wallace Chase) from 20/20 Blind, called **Berken Waid Nites**. He is also now engaged to Melissa Truitt, who sang a duet with **One Bad Pig**'s guitarist **Paul Q-Pek** at my wedding. (The song was Paul Clark's "Author of Love") Joey and Melissa met at the rehearsal the night before the wedding...Congrats!!! For those wondering what some of the other members of Stryken are

doing, well, I'm glad you asked! How does "running for Congress" sound to ya? Yes, it's true! Former vocalist/guitarist for the band, **Stephen Hopkins**, is running for a seat in the United States House of Representatives! When asked what the first thing he would do upon his arrival to Washington, he replied, "I would carry a small pine box with an aborted baby and set it on my desk every day that I would go into Congress." Stephen is using his federally-protected right to air unedited campaign commercials featuring graphic footage of the horror of abortion (ie. dead babies). He had tried paying cash to local television stations to air his commercials a year ago, and they all refused to air even tame pro-life spots. He found out that the only way to get access was if he was a candidate for federal office. Way to go Stephen! He's increased awareness in the capitol city of Texas to the truth of abortion, as well as exposed many hypocritical and defensive actions by pro-choice activists.

Heaven's Metal is currently running 5-minute "Metal News" spots on "Rock Alive," a syndicated Christian rock show on CBN Radio. Word Records recently sold to Thomas Nelson Publishers, putting this industry's biggest company back into the hands of believers (it was sold by its previous owner, ABC). Sparrow just sold to EMI, so they might have instant access to mainstream distribution (could this mean we'll see Charlie Peacock break it big now?). Vocalist extraordinaire **Robin "Kyle" Basauri**, who also sang on the **Die Happy** album, has left **Jaguar**. Bummer! **Jeff Scheetz** is looking for a vocalist and a drummer for his band. "For the vocal style, I'm looking for a cross between Doug Pinnick of King's X and Steve Walsh of Kansas," says Jeff. Interested parties send demo, bio and photo to: PO Box 10135, Kansas City MO 64111.

The new **Randy Rose** album will be called "HEALING," and feature a cover of The Doors' tune "Break On Through." **Die Happy**'s new album is due out in February and is tentatively titled "VOLUME TWO," drawing people's attention to the fact that there was a previous album (which in my opinion is absolutely incredible!). **Mortal** will have a new one out in January, called "FATHOM." **Under Midnight** will release a cassingle for 99 cents, which will feature remixes of the entire album in one pass, called "Cybernetic Apocalypso." **Sacred Warrior**'s **Tony Velazquez** is doing some drumming for various live dates for **The Stand**. **Jet Circus** is still demo-ing new material for its follow-up album.

Redeemer, an unsigned band from the Desert Springs, performed in a "Quake relief" concert, raising around \$500 for those victims of the June 28th earthquake (which registered 7.5 on the Richter scale!) in Yucca Valley, California. Redeemer has a new mailing address now, too. It's: PO Box 246, Joshua Tree CA 92252. **Stryper**'s **Oz Fox**

emceed a homeless benefit concert for the Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles, which was headlined by **The Crucified**. Last year's benefit show, featuring Stryper, provided for more than 9,000 meals. **Craig Erickson** has recorded his first solo album for Shrapnel's B.B.I. label. "It's a vocal album with lots of blues and rock guitar wailing," says Craig, "including plenty of slide and wah work. It's kind of a mix of Hendrix/Cream/Stevie Ray/Johnny Winter/Gary Moore and Robin Trower." The drums were played by Atma Anur, who played for Greg Howe, Tony MacAlpine, and Jason Becker, and bass was played by John Onder, who's played with Joey Tafolla. The album was produced by Mike Varney and recorded at Prairie Sun Studios during August and will be released sometime in the next two months. "I consider the whole thing a miracle," concludes Craig, "but then all things are possible..."

Road Runner announced that **Believer** is scheduled to enter the studio at press time to record its third album, "DIMENSIONS." The "Rock Diaries," a half-hour cable tv program produced by Outlaw Ministries featuring Christian music videos in Eastern Massachusetts, was selected "best religious program" from a record 2,087 entries, from 412 cities in 40 states and three Canadian provinces in the 1992 Hometown USA Video Festival.

Magdallan's "BIG BANG" album has been licensed to the mainstream Japanese market via the Tokyo-based Apollon Records. The Japanese version, in addition to having Japanese lyrics on the J-card, will also feature two extra tracks, including "Little Liar" (from the recent Tamplin/Shout compilation album) and "Sail Away," a song which Tamplin recorded for use in a Japan Air Lines commercial to be broadcast in Japan. "Unlike the radio-driven US market, hit songs are often driven in Japan by play on television commercials," comments MJM Entertainment Group's Mark Joseph. "We're hoping that Kenny's commercial exposure will dramatically increase sales of the Magdallan record. Tamplin is no stranger to Japan. His Shout albums were released there and, in 1989, Tamplin and Joseph spent seven days there on a promotional tour for the "IN YOUR FACE" album.

Currently, Tamplin is in the studio working on tracks for a new album with a new band for an undisclosed label. "I've spent a long time developing a band situation that will last," said Tamplin. "I'm confident that this will by far overshadow anything I've done in the past. Magdallan was a great experience, but it was time to move on to a more permanent situation." Tamplin describes the new direction as a departure of sorts. "I see the new album as a post-Seattle phenomenon work that melds the energy of that scene with the classic rock of Queen, AC/DC, Zeppelin and Aerosmith that I grew up listening to."



Rare Deliverance Acoustic Set (Photo Ricky Thompson)
Expect the album in early 1993...

Deliverance just finished recording a live EP, which debuts a new line of products from Intense Records. Each of their metal bands are going to record an EP live in the studio. It offers the control of the precise studio environment, but the energy and spontaneity of a live concert. The new Deliverance EP features a cover of Stryper's "**Surrender**." **Mike Phillips**, the new guitarist, listened to Stryper before he was saved and really wanted to do it. Look for it in January. Deliverance and **Ransom** both did acoustic sets at a huge in-store appearance in Southern California last month.

Bride's hot new album is being released in a specially priced collector's edition "double CD" set, which includes a separate CD with: two songs from "SNAKES..." plus interviews with Dale and Troy, the four #1 singles from "KINETIC FAITH" & "END OF THE AGE," and (even though it's not printed on the CD cover) an acoustic version of "**Hired Gun**." This special set is being pressed in limited #'s and will retail for \$19.95.

Songwriters and poets might be interested in getting your stuff published in **Christian Poet**, a regular service that prints collections of poems in flyer forms. For info, write: Richard Soos, 2745 Monterey Hwy #76, San Jose CA 95111. **The Concert Sponsors and Promoters Guide** is the latest in a series of Christian music industry trade materials produced by the James Lloyd Group. The manual provides interviews and comments from selected Christian promoters, sample performance contracts, a complete concert budget, sample press release and much more. It's available for \$17.50 from James Lloyd, Box 3, Ashland OR 97520.

Many of you may have heard of the death of **Mark Heard**, who suffered a heart attack almost immediately after his Cornerstone appearance this year. His wife and family have been caught holding an enormous medical bill as a result of Mark laying in a coma for several days before dying. Those wishing to help out can send donations to: Heard Family Fund, c/o New Sound, PO Box 197, Merrimac MA 01860.

Last August the Tohm family held the first Summer Fest on their farm in Lisbon, Ohio. It was a three-day festival, which featured **Novella** and Rosey Grier. Those wishing advance info on next year's fest may write: Celeste Vohar, 823 Crestview Drive, East Liverpool OH 43920. **Stefan Selvander** has left **Modest Attraction** and been replaced by **Stephan Mohlin**. The punk band **Akeldama** has changed its name to **Buttercup**. For info, write: 4786 Pullman St, Salem OR 97302. **Zuriel** has created a special fund just for buying Bibles and Four Spiritual Laws tracts to give to its concert-goers. Those wishing to help may send tax-deductible contributions to: PO Box 15132, Hamilton OH 45015. (Please mark "Bibles" on your check)

Did you know that the **Rockin' Rabbis** are one of the most bizarre live bands in Christian music? They were little plastic caps on their heads (a la DEVO) and dress rather odd. The title of their first tape was "NOISY LITTLE SUNBEAMS," which became the band's nickname. Cup O' Joy Christian Coffeehouse is a new venue booking Christian music (metal included) in Green Bay, Wisconsin. For booking info, call Mike at (414) 437-6694. Joyful Noise Evangelistic Association, who re-released the **Barnabas** CD, are also going to be re-releasing some other vintage material from Christian rock's

archives, including: **Trytan's** "CELESTIAL MESSENGER," **Philadelphia, Sweet Comfort Band**, **The Hank Laake Band** and **Phil Keaggy's Glass Harp**.

Sacrament has included a Bible study on the title track ("**Haunts of Violence**") of its new album. The band also announces its new band logo, with the cross impaling a skull. Famous Gospel singer **Dottie Rambo** has a new two-hour seminar on cassette called "Hook Line, Subject & Rhyme," which should help

songwriters. She also offers her insight on what Gospel music is all about. It's available for \$14.95 (plus \$2 postage) from: Rambo Evangelistic, PO Box 50478, Nashville TN 37205-0478. **Liaison's** new album is reportedly much harder edged than previous pop rock outings...

Pyramid Film and Video in Santa Monica, California is releasing a dramatic film about sexual abuse which features the music of **Idle Cure**. The title of the film is "**Innocent Again**," which is the name of the Idle Cure song featured during the climactic part of the story. Ryburn Promotions is accepting demos of unsigned metal bands for upcoming shows. Interested bands can send tapes to: Ryburn Promotions, 147 Avon, Elmhurst IL 60126. **Begotten Breed** has a new drummer and lead guitarist.

Lanny Cordola has signed a long-term contract with ERG (a division of Essential Record Group). **Sacred Heart** of Waco, Texas will be going into the studio in January to record its debut album. **Scott Sifton** has joined **Jordan**, who is changing its style. **Electrik** is finishing up a contract with a major producer, who will produce an album with them and then shop it to labels. The band is generating quite a following. Recently they played atop the roof at Gazzari's in Hollywood. Two of the girls from **Dawn** (of **Tony Orlando and Dawn**) are both Christians and part of Sanctuary. The "CALIFORNIA METAL III" album will be a thrash album and probably feature the following 10 bands: **The Crucified, Vengeance Rising, Precious Death, Ritual, Towne Cryer, The Terminal Generation, Final Warning, Gorgitation of the Pure, Judgement and Nicean Creed**. Look for it on Ocean soon.

HM

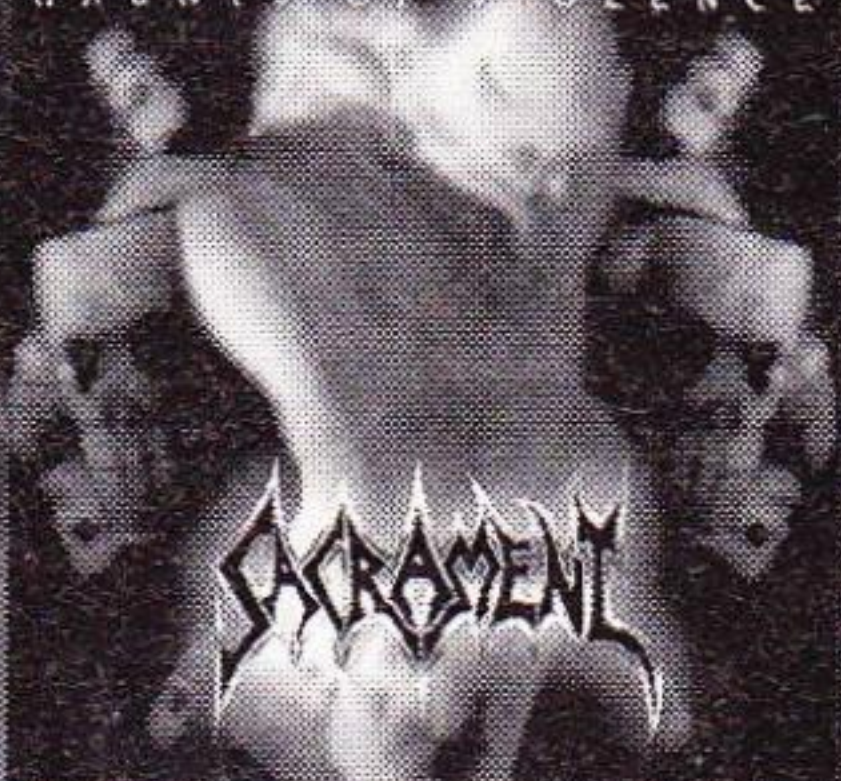


LIVING SACRIFICE

NONEXISTENT

AVAILABLE ON **REX** CASSETTES AND COMPACT DISCS

ALSO NOW
AVAILABLE



SACRAMENT
Haunts of Violence

*Emerging from the shadows
of a dark October day comes
a new offering of mind
shattering metal that will
penetrate the deepest
crevices of your soul*

**SCRAPE UP THE DIRT ON THE LATEST RELEASES BEFORE THEY HIT THE STREET!
WRITE TO GET ON THE REX MAILING LIST > PO BOX 25269 NASHVILLE TN 37202**

Album Reviews

UNDERCOVER "DEVOTION"

Brainstorm

While "BALANCE OF POWER"

expanded Undercover's sound to a point where hard rockers embraced the band for perhaps the first time--seeing how they used to be a bopping keyboard nuevo wave-o band--this album takes the band one step further. This 10-song disc starts off with "Work it Out," where Ojo's monster bass comes screaming out of the mix. Gym Nicholson's guitar tone achieves a groovin' sound that would be the envy of any new band trying to cop the Seattle sound--which is a broad new label that could smother this project if Undercover didn't have its small niche in the smaller fishbowl of Christian music. For instance, "Where I Should Be" could pass for a Sound Garden or Pearl Jam tune. The production and songwriting quality is hot enough to air on any aggressive radio station anywhere.

"Man, Oh Man," which introduces a smokin' horn section, doesn't lower the level of the bass frequency at all (in fact, it actually goes up a notch or two), pounding out a low rumble. This song and "Purple Flower" establish a hot sound from Gym's guitar rig--a great mixture of wah-wah and grunge.

The title track is an epic (six minutes, 16 seconds) tune with big swells and sweeping emotion, while its follow-up, "Promenade," takes the anthemic mood at the end of "Devotion" ("Lift your hands, it's time to fly, people") and lifts it in a slow, plodding ballad manner.

What I can say for this Undercover album that I couldn't say about any others is that I like it all--even the super slow "All That I Am," which acts as a worship song of surrender. This album, along with the incredible Die Happy and Applehead albums are projects that shouldn't go unnoticed. Check this stuff out, eh?

--Doug Van Pelt

DAVID ZAFFIRO "SURRENDER ABSOLUTE"

Intense

Remember when David Zaffiro used to play in Bloodgood? He'd do a smokin' "guitar burn" solo every show that would blow people away. You'd never guess he had mellow music in him...that is, until the third Bloodgood album "ROCK IN A HARD PLACE" was released. Since then this man has produced two Holy Soldier records and recorded two of his own. This one is the mellowest of the three, but it's got some goodies the other two didn't. The first surprise is the inclusion of guest vocalist Randall Waller, who fronted Australia's Avion for several years (who was even signed to EMI Records until an unfortunate car accident killed the band's keyboardist).

The title track captures Randall in his usual surroundings--well-performed, melodic hard rock. He's got a great smooth voice that invites radio airplay. This is the tallest standout cut on the album, with the lead-off track, "Find my Way," coming in a close second. "Find my Way" is a subdued, acoustic-in-the-back propelled tune (now recognizable as a Zaffiro trademark). These are nice, warm tracks with plenty of sonic depth and

groove. All that aside (in this reviewer's opinion), the choicest moments on the album are the three instrumentals: "Silas and Seral," a beautiful, flowing instrumental with sweeping guitar melody; "Attitude," a instrumental rocker with a little guitar wow thrown in here and there; and "No Long Goodbyes," more guitar wow, with tasty, melodic lines drawn.

"Every Little Thing" features some of the only real all-out jamming in the context of a song, where everyone turns up the heat and goes after it. The jangly acoustic guitar background is very infectious. I can see this one attracting a crowd on the street.

As always, David's lyrics are thoughtful, heartfelt, and offer something deeper than "repent and believe." "Find my Way" is written for a friend of his who was going through a divorce. The song "is a statement of courage to take the first step toward saving a marriage," says David in his liner notes. "Calling out to Me" is another Zaffiro song about death, this one dedicated to a close childhood friend who is dying of AIDS. The title track is about a recent time where David found himself dealing with a physical adversity that threatened to end his ability to continue in music. It's a touching song that chronicles his necessity to surrender all to Jesus.

Another quality album by Zippy, but this one doesn't have enough blazing leads or heavy beats to court the hard rock/metal crowd for long. Fans of Foreigner will be most attracted.

--DV

LANNY CORDOLA "OF RIFFS AND SYMPHONIES"

ERG

Lanny's second solo album is like a little boy's typical day (except that this little boy can play the guitar like few other players--young or old). He begins his day by showing his visitor (which happens to be you--the listener) his "Kaleidoscope," which turns and tumbles, showing off all the wildest color combinations of the rainbow. Then he invites you to play with his toy airplanes, simulating the battle of "Armashreddin'"--complete with dive bomb sound effects. Then he takes you over to his trusty old turntable and says, "Play it Again Sham," and begins spinning a 45 from the past, something about a white boy playing funky music...

Bored with that, he picks up his father's old banjo for an "Interlude." Then he picks up some finger cymbals and dances around his room, celebrating the fact that he has "The Real Thing" in Jesus and not some phony religion. Upon hearing this commotion, his father and mother proceed up the stairs blowin' horns and joining in the celebration of truth.

All this being too much, the little boy falls back into a wicker chair and relaxes with a bit of flamenco guitar playing. After his guest shows obvious amazement with facial gestures, he begins to tell an electric tale from history, taking his listener back in time on a musical journey to the town of "Gettysburg." Realizing his power to mesmerize his visitor, he invites his mother (played by Jon Gibson in a dress) back in the room to lament over the blues of this life and express the hope that it "Won't Be Long Till Paradise."

After this long stretch of restful play,

little Lanny jumps up and initiates another game of war with his little plastic soldiers. After a few moments it's apparent that a little angst and attitude is expressed in his play, as he throws himself into the character of "The Obstinate Toy Soldier."

His nanny, whom he refers to simply as "Nan," comes in to interrupt and has him sit back down in the chair, while she goes and serves him and his guest lemonade--walking across the room like a waitress in a Jazz nightclub. Once he's done downing the cool, laid-back drink, he opens his Bible for a peek into "The Revelation." When he starts his story, another guest from the house of lords drops in to tell of his bad feelings whenever he hears about the prophecies in Revelation and looks at the world around him. The room becomes charged with excitement once again, as the magnitude of this is expressed and openly wondered out loud.

With a look that tells you your visit with him is about over, he picks up his electric blue guitar and picks out a plodding, emotional ditty that he says, "this one's For The Brothers," giving you that knowing grin that lets you know that you're included in his sentiments. Before you leave, he takes you back downstairs through the living room, where his parents, his nanny and the butler are all jiggling around the room to some snappy Jazz tune. Inspired, Lanny runs back upstairs and retrieves his electric guitar, which soon dominates the sound in the room as everyone but his visitor (who is now holding a flaming bic lighter in Lanny's direction as a sign of respect and admiration) are holding their hands over their ears. When he finishes up, he tells you he had a wonderful time spending the day with you and you begin to realize that this was only one such day of many like it in the future. You're reminded that your most faithful friend, Jesus, once promised that, "Lo, I Be With You Always."

Like a good day's journey, this trip had lots of variety and fun, making you want to relive it again and again.

--DV

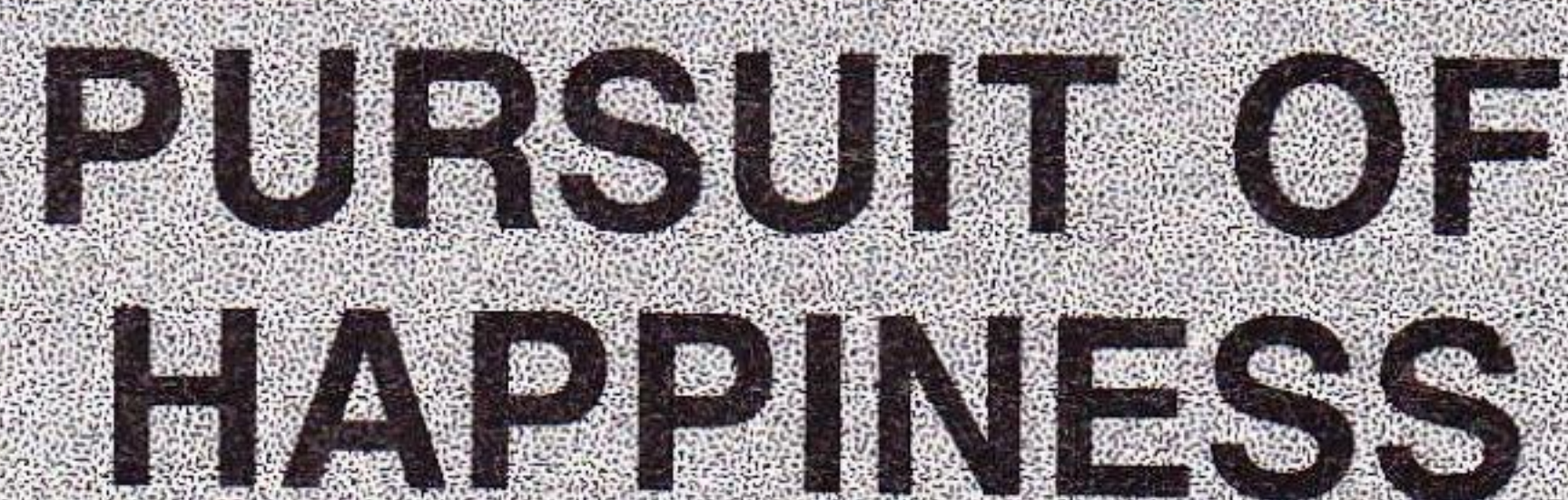
LUST CONTROL "WE ARE NOT ASHAMED"

Enclave

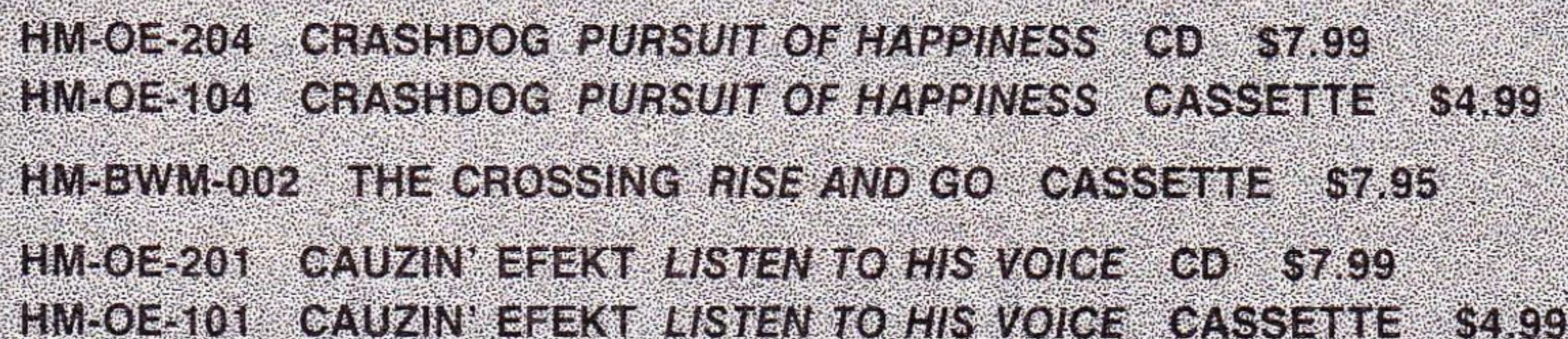
The new tape and Bible study from Lust Control, "WE ARE NOT ASHAMED," offers the most powerful message I have ever heard. And believe me, I've heard a lot!

No wimps in this band. As shocking as some of the subjects are, it's a message the young church needs to hear. But who are these guys behind the masks? It's actually a good thing we don't focus on what the band looks like, it makes us focus on the important message, rather than their appearance. How many times have we gone to a concert and been amazed at the band's flash, rather than substance? We've seen the fluff, but Lust Control can't be bothered with anything that distracts from the message.

The message begins with a very simple truth that we are saved by "Grace." "Leave Amy Alone" is the next song, but now that I think about it, I don't even have her home phone number--how could I bother her? "You Make Me Puke" is Lust Control's translation of Revelation 3:15, and it's here that L.C. really starts to deliver. This is 90's evangelism with teeth! We



HM-20B REZ
XX YEARS
AIR-DYED
T-SHIRT!
(L, XL, XXL)
\$17.00



NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Mail to: Grrr recordS, 920 W. Wilson Ave., Chicago, IL 60640.
Please make payment in the form of a check for U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S.
bank or international money order for U.S. dollars.
**ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. ALL ORDERS
MUST BE PREPAID.**

need to stop playing games with God, and get real! If we don't, we might as well "Return to Vomit," another song that brings up the compromise issue.

The guys tackle national organizations in "Planned Parenthood," the best song on the tape, but by no means the song with the most bite. If Randall Terry hasn't heard the song "Operation Rescue," he should, and include it as a street-side chant.

These guys aren't afraid of any topic! Personal issues, such as masturbation ("The Big 'M'"), incest ("The Secret"), lust ("Mad at the Girls," "Get Married"), and sexual revolution ("Virginity Disease," "Victim of Revolution") find their space here. Spiritual topics surface in "Deliverance," "If You Fail" and "Speaking in Tongues."

"Some people think the subjects (we address) shouldn't be dealt with in mixed, public settings. Lust Control wants to seriously address some issues that have been ignored for too long. Someone needs to stand up and scream some answers," says Gene, the band spokesman. "I have a dream that we could affect change through the power of music."

But who's gonna listen to four guys in ski masks...?

You will!!

--Phil Sterling

DECISION-D

"RAZON DE LA MUERTA"

Crypta

Fans of Believer's aggro speed metal are gonna eat this disc up. This five-piece has improved so much since its last demo--and what a difference a good studio and producer makes! This eight-song offering is one tight onslaught of crunch and rhythm. Most impressive is the double guitar tone of Daniel Bootsma and Stijn Bollinger, but the monster drumming by Peter Zaal can't be ignored (he's fast!). Bassist Gerard Vanderree holds the fat bottom end together wonderfully. Fans of the "growl-til-death metal-is-mainstream" style will love Edwin Ogenio's vocals. During "Criticize," Edwin sounds like Paul D'Anno (ex-Iron Maiden) during the verses and like Mike Tyrone (ex-Sacramento) during the choruses.

Besides thrash music that kills (I mean, the runs in "Babylon's Kingdom" are mind-blowing!), the lyrics here are A+ excellent. "Criticize" is a great refutation of the rock 'n' roll singer who spends all his time talking about problems and pointing fingers, yet never offers the only real solution: changed hearts through Jesus. "Ecclesia Anorexia" is a dissertation of the letter to the church in Laodicea from the book of Revelation. "Diabolic Shadow" is a "Satan, we come against you in the Name of Jesus" song with instructions on how to test spirits. "World's Deception" talks about how blessed it is to follow God, Whose commands are not burdensome; and how cursed is he who trusts in man.

Excellent material for the die-hard thrasher. Warning: This music will pound in your skull and cave in your ribs if you play it too loud! By the way, this album (called "RAZON DE LA MUERTA," meaning "Cause of Death") is on a mainstream label in Germany and will soon be available in the U.S. For those who can't wait, write the band for ordering info at: PO Box 762, 3500 AT Utrecht, The Netherlands.

--DV

RE-ISSUE MANIA AD, ARKANGEL, BARNABAS, JOSHUA & DARRELL MANSFIELD

Now that compact discs have been with us for six years or so, many classic recordings are being made available on this pristine digital format. The two projects closest to heavy metal are also the two that probably received the most touch-up work: "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BARNABAS" and Joshua's "SURRENDER." The Barnabas release is a compilation of the band's best two albums: "APPROACHING LIGHT SPEED" and "FEEL THE FIRE." John and Dino remixed from the original 24-track masters, beefing up the drums and bass, thickening the overall sound in appropriate places, like the intro to "Follow You Up." This band was one of the first, along with Stryper, to really tear it up on guitar. I remember thinking "Hmmm, check out those Randy Rhoads-like hammer-ons and vibrato action" the first time I heard Brian Belew's fiery riffing. Some of the edge from Brian's guitar sound was taken off in the remix (Awww!), though. The quiet moments here are improved, as noticed in the clean piano sounds in the ballad "If Love Brings Love" and the theatrical "prog rock" intros of "Prelude, The Dream" and "Breathless Wonderment." I A-B'd this version of "Breathless Wonderment" with the original and noticed more separation between the BGV's on the new one, showing that the Elefante Brothers indeed do know how to do a proper EQ. While the artsy/prog rock approach to metal that Barnabas took to its music is far outdated, longtime fans of the band will surely drool to get ahold of this disc.

This Joshua album was originally released on Polydor Records in 1986 within the Japanese, European and South American markets. It is a shame it wasn't released stateside in '86. We all would have drooled over it then, but now it suffers some dated-ness. The keyboard lines to "Your Love is Gone" and the powerchords of "Back to the Rock" (which sounds a lot like the old Rainbow single "All Night Long") are the best examples here of dated sounds. Guitarist Joshua Perahia is a superlative songwriter and this disc showcases his efforts and skills from that era. A gem from the present is included on this release as a bonus cut, which shows the current songwriting status of Josh's current band--Jaguar. The cut is "Show Me The Way" it's almost worth the price of the disc alone. One listen to this cut will prove that Robin Kyle, who also sang on the killer Die Happy album, is one of the best vocalists alive. But this tune shouldn't overshadow the efforts of another world-class singer: Jeff Fenholt, who had the lead part in the Broadway musical Jesus Christ Superstar years ago and has his own show on TBN. Josh once told me that he mentioned to Michael Schenker that Jeff sang on one of his albums and the poor guy about freaked out. Jeff's voice is powerful--and I mean powerful. The guy can seem to push a note out with incredible force. Tunes like "Heart Full of Soul" and "Love Shock" are ample evidence. Josh's redone guitar leads on songs like "Surrender" and "Hold On" show why this guy's no slouch, either. In fact, the intro to "Hold On" shows why Josh would win the \$100 challenge to be the fastest lead player in clubs night after night. Overall, this is a fair-to-average album by a most excellent band. I'm especially prejudiced, since

I've heard the 1988 European release "INTENSE DEFENSE."

Also previously released (1980) on Polydor Records is "GET READY" by Darrell Mansfield. This album includes tunes that are still standards in Darrell's concerts today, like "Heaven Southwestern" and "Get Ready." Some of the guitar tones reek of an earlier time, but the songs certainly stand up on their own. While this album is a rockin' hard, some of the best cuts are the midtempo numbers, like "Above the Water" and "Billy Joe," which really has the classic Southern rock dual guitar attack sound. The three new, bonus cuts added are all pretty much slow, adult contemporary fare. The one tune where the entire album stands up and cuts loose is "Heaven Southwestern." It's got all the momentum of a locomotive and is one of those timeless cuts that'll get a crowd moving any night of the week.

Arkangel's one and only album, "WARRIOR," is arguably one of the best albums of all time. Take the best progressive art rock elements of bands like Rush, Kansas, E.L.P. and Jethro Tull and you've got a killer mixture of acoustic and electric--along with quite a billing to live up to! On the "Wind Face" (acoustic) portion of the disc, you've got memorable classics like "Warrior," "Paradox" and "Greater Love," which show off the talent and class of these artists--much like Led Zeppelin would do on all its albums. The "Fire Face" (which was side two of the LP) starts off with the mesmerizing and Celtic-like ditty "Ex Nihilo" accompanied by violin, segueing into "Morning's Anthem," a prog rock masterpiece. Guitarist Dave Marshall, whose son plays in one of the newest Wilde Silas (Atomic Opera) groups, lets his guitar do the talking, er wailing, in "Elohim Considers Antedeluvia" (which is an adaptation of "Tocatta and Fugue in D minor")--one of the strangest names ever for a song. Both "Ark" and "To a Sleeping Infidel" are rocking apocalyptic messages of how God rescues His people from His wrath and how He's gonna do another rescue soon.

Kerry Livgren's post-Kansas band, AD, was one of those brilliant creations that didn't receive the listen that millions of Kansas followers would've appreciated (blame CBS Records for not promoting it). All is not lost for the faithful few thousand who know where to get ahold of his material. Blessed are those who are patient, for AD's finest moments (the debut "TIME LINE" album) have seen the light of digital day. Most people who enjoy Kerry Livgren's music love to have everything he does and this two-disc collection is a great answer to many prayers. Besides including the brilliant "TIME LINE" album, you can hear the infamous "SEEDS OF CHANGE" solo album that Kerry released between the "AUDIO VISIONS" and "VINYL CONFESSIONS" (where are they on CD???) albums, which features one of metal's most memorable voices--Ronnie James Dio. That's right, "Mr. I'll portray a priest being strangled by a demon on my album cover" actually sang two cuts on Mr. Livgren's first solo album. The tunes are great, too: "Mask of the Great Deceiver" and "Live for the King," which features some passionate ad-libbing at the end of the song by Mr. Dio. As a musician-for-hire, Dio did a swell job of seeming to get into the song. This was definitely one of the most bizarre and greatest moments in Christian rock history. Aside from these two releases in their entirety, some of the cool cuts from

SARDONYX

"Majestic Serenity"

I am excited to recommend the ministry of Sardonyx to you. There are no "wanna be" rock stars here. They are all sold out to Jesus Christ - and are dedicated to His ministry. I personally know few bands who are as equipped to minister and are as balanced in their ministry as the guys in Sardonyx. The band is only a part of their total ministry.

I am also totally blown away by their new album called "Majestic Serenity". They have taken a real responsibility in presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a totally refreshing and up-front fashion. I love their lyrical explanation before each song and scripture "between the lines" in the liner notes. It is very evident that the Holy Spirit did the writing here. The songs are from our Saviour's Heart - to you! If you only purchase one album this year, make it this one.

Pastor Bob Beeman
Sanctuary Church

- CASSETTE
- CONCERT VIDEO
- LIGHTSHINE METAL
MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

\$20

- CD
- CONCERT VIDEO
- LIGHTSHINE METAL
MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

\$25

Name _____
Address _____
State _____ Zip _____

• offer expires December 31, 1992

Send check or money order to:
SARDONYX
PO Box 219
McAlisterville PA 17049

"ART OF THE STATE," which should've been included in the "COMPACT FAVORITES" CD released back in '88, are included here: "Up From the Wasteland" and "Progress." For those who are counting, only three AD are missing from digital format (all from "ART OF THE STATE"): "Zion," "Heartland" and "The Only way to Have a Friend."

It is such a benevolent thing when a record company takes the time and effort to re-release older, classic material on cd. The five fore-mentioned projects were long overdue and very much appreciated by this reviewer. All but two of these are available in local Christian bookstores. You'll need to order the other two via mail-order. For Barnabas, send \$16.98 (plus \$1 postage) to: Joyful Noise, PO Box 94, Bellevue NE 68005. For ordering info on Arkangel, write: Joyeuse Garde Recordings, PO Box 840501, Houston TX 77284-0501.

--DV

FLUFFY "GO FLUFFY GO"

Blonde Vinyl

With this, Fluffy's second album, we find Fluffy a real band (almost) and a real album. If you live in an apartment and you're interested in grunging all your neighbors away, this is a good album to do it with. This disc contains a large dose of Southern Californian angst, coming off as a release of pent up frustration in the form of loud, distorted guitars and "anyone can do this" vocals. "Little Finger Eye" starts things off with a cool psychedelic groove complete with droning vocals and a few Mike Knott-ish "I really mean this" vocal screams. Is this nebulous song about the "magical" small finger that appears in front of your eyes when you place both your index fingers about an inch apart right in front of your face? (hmm) Quite a bit of the material here (12 songs in all) is of the surf/post-punk/grunge variety ala The Lifesavers. The "Little Finger Eye Coda" closes the album with the same sentiments.

The best cut is probably "Traci," with its feedbacking guitars and surfing drum sound. Other songs of note include: "Hulaville," lamenting "my baby left me (and) she took the tv;" and, believe it or not, Fluffy does a cover of Rick Springfield's "Jessie's Girl," done with all the reverence to the teen pop star of tongue wagging. The heaviest and most chaotic tune is definitely "Crystal," with its speedy guitar riffing, while the follow-up tune, "White Trash," bemoans how "God's gonna getcha!" Interesting message, eh?

While Fluffy's "GO, FLUFFY, GO" album won't make every metal aficionado's playlist, they've certainly at least created a listenable project, which is more than The Fluff's first album "FLUFFY LOVES YOU" can boast. It's somewhat sloppy and self-indulgent music (it really *is* art!), but hey! if Nirvana can get away with it, then why not Fluffy?

--DV

THE HOUNDS OF HEAVEN "VIRTUE & VIRGINITY"

Blonde Vinyl

Here's a very bizarre record that is a conglomeration of styles, which includes very fast hardcore-edge slammin' and dark 'n' doomy hard rock. The wispy vocals of Nelson Di Marco are haunting and somewhat whimsical in tunes like

"Death Trap." With each listen these hooks grab ahold of my attention a little bit harder. The first few songs that jumped right out at me due to heaviness was the fast and pumpin' "Quarter Mile," about drag racing on "the outlaw track"; and "The Monster in the Box," appropriately titled for its huge attack of vocals, staccato snare drumming and guitar distortion that all sounds a little like Ministry (the band, not the concept, per se).

Chalk it up to Blonde Vinyl for another cool and creative edgy alternative band--with an appeal to hard rockers.

--DV

UNDER MIDNIGHT

Wonderland

Boy, I'm glad I was in a good mood the week I reviewed this and two other industrial projects. This kind of music takes a certain attitude to listen to--otherwise it'll give you a headache the size of Manhattan (I sound like a parent, but it's true!).

This is a concept album, carrying a theme of "personal, societal and corporate revolution," in which the main character, embracing technology, but thinking a little differently than "the system." He found Truth and wouldn't let virtual reality or new age philosophy drown it. He tries to save a girl he cares about from the dangerous leader Dr. Rubio, who wants to use technology to achieve his new age, self-centered agenda.

The songwriting is great. Frankie (remember The Heebie Geebies?) and db Allen can be credited for creating a very intricate audio extravaganza and penning some great lyrics. The thought and effort put into this project is mind-boggling. You hear simulated news reports that underline the story as well as other "sound effects." This is truly a benchmark release in the growing Christian industrial genre.

--DV

MATT HARDING

Oh yeah! If you like aggressive and domineering guitar, you'll immediately take a liking to Matt Harding's latest tape. Matt is the founder, guitarist and vocalist of Apostle, a Jacksonville, Florida-based trio that recorded in JPUSA's Tone Zone studios and appeared on the "EAST COAST METAL" album a few years ago. Matt's lost none of his speed and attacking approach to the guitar. He starts things off with "Armor of Light." His high-pitched voice at times matches some of the high notes he's hitting on this one. "Kingdom Come" picks up next with a little Southern rock and R&B sass to it. By "Alive and Well," side one begins to bog down with vocal production and somewhat dated blunt-between-the-eyes delivery.

One fault holding this tape back is the fact that it's just plain brutal--but the old-fashioned way. Today bands are wowing metalheads with speed, speed and more speed or with groovin' bluesy Zeppelin riffs. Harding is hitting the audience with blunt heaviness and wowie guitar playing. It's heavy 'n' rockin', yet a couple years out of sync with the "musical elite" of today.

The title track is a wild instrumental, mixing a plodding rhythm line with fiery scales and wails and "The Light" finds the rhythm section in full crunch. "Sparks" finds the band in a good groove, yet still leaves lots of room for Matt's

guitar to sing the verses rather than his voice. To get ahold of this molten tape, send \$3 to: 4567 Blount Ave, Jacksonville FL 32810.

--DV

Various "Of Faith and Utterance"

Here's a 16-song compilation disc promoting Visions of Gray, a regional newspaper/zine covering the Christian alternative scene. The best hard rock cuts on this alternative-dominated disc are: "You're the Reason" by Last Generation; "Waiting" by the female-fronted Crossfire; "Life in a Bottle" by Zero Hour, with its King's X harmonies near the end of the song; and "Jesus is the One" by Messenger, which is the best cut on the disc, reminiscent of Y&T.

By sending \$10 for an annual subscription to Visions of Gray, you'll receive this disc free! Send to: PO Box 724973, Atlanta GA 30339.

--DV

RAGMAN

For all who are really into the Seattle grunge sound, I'd like to recommend this three-song demo by "Ragman." Dave Urbanski (guitar) and Eric Hults (lead vocals) come off with a very impressive demo that really grooves! "Out on the Desert Floor" is the first to really kick things off with a great nasty groove! "Not (Alone)" adds acoustic guitar work, which adds a lot of dynamics to the song. "Magnetic" is an all-out groove grinder! Definitely a group to look out for and a demo worth having!

To order, send \$5 to: Eric Hults, 2611 Darby Dr, Wilmington DE 19808.

--Joey Knight

CHOSEN STRANGER

So close, but not so far. Chosen Stranger's four-song demo has got to be one of the best quality demos I have heard in a very long time! Production is very much album quality and very clean, yet not overdone. The songs are good, rockin' melodic tunes with very good vocal work done, although at times there are certain places within the songs where things could've turned very melodic to really enhance the songs, but slightly falls short.

Lead vocalist Russ Atteberry has a tendency to sound like Les Carlsen at times, but in a very good way. BGV's are clean and strong. Kevin Dunkel (bass) and Jeff Ellison (drums) do a great job with the rhythm section and Rusty Ellison (guitar) comes through with tasty stuff. Songs included are: "Forgiveness," about one who realizes his sin and asks for redemption; "Follow the Leader" deals with the death of someone's father and having him say before he died "to follow God as he did." "Deathwalker" and "Waste of Time" are well-done rockers, so definitely check this demo out!

This tape finds Chosen Stranger back in familiar territory after a long hiatus since its appearance on the "UNDERGROUND METAL" album. For ordering info, write: 1337 E. Black, Springfield IL 62702.

--JK

CONSECRATOR

One of the best unsigned thrash bands has another custom tape release, and it shows continued growth and change. Vocalist Glenn

WAKE UP! TIME TO DIE!

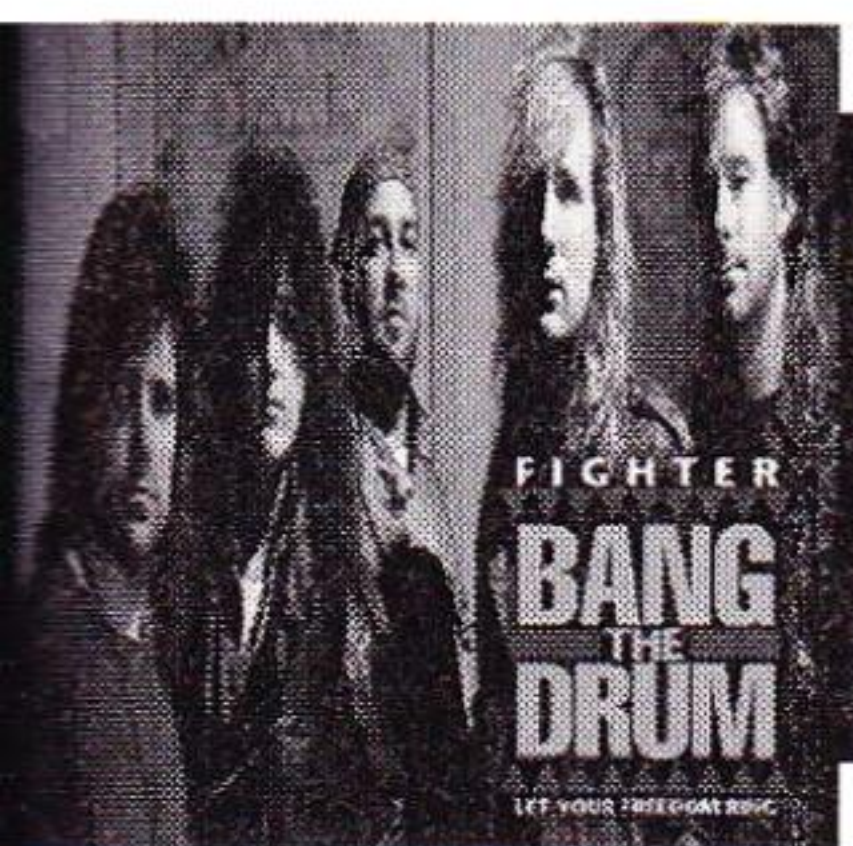
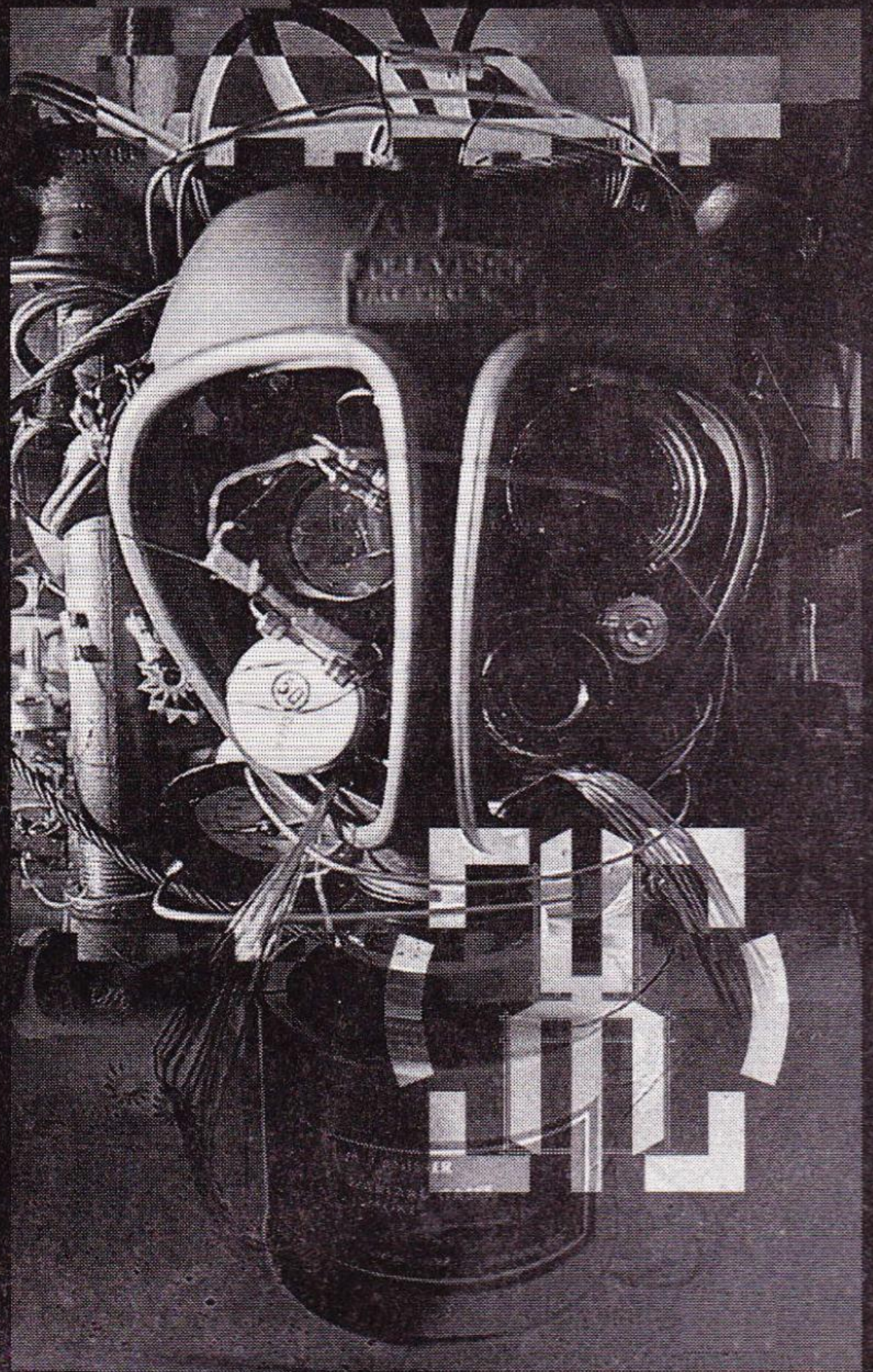


POP, DANCE AND THRASH FUSE^D INTO A SINGULAR,
GLORIOUS CYBERNETIC APOCALYPSO!

FEATURING THE GUITAR PLAYING OF "BELIEVERS" KURT BACHMAN

UNDER MIDNIGHT

LOOK FOR THE CYBERNETIC REMIXES
99¢ CASSETTE SINGLE WITH COUPON GOOD FOR 99¢
OFF OF THE UNDER MIDNIGHT CD OR CASSETTE!



FIGHTER
A DECLARATION OF FAITH, A FOUNDATION OF FREEDOM,
ELEVEN SONGS OF PASSION AND LIBERTY.
FIGHTER BANG THE DRUM
SHOWCASING THE SIGNATURE GUITARS OF BILLY HELLER AND THE
TWIN MONSTER VOCALS FROM AMY WOLTER AND SEAN MURPHY
LET YOUR FREEDOM RING

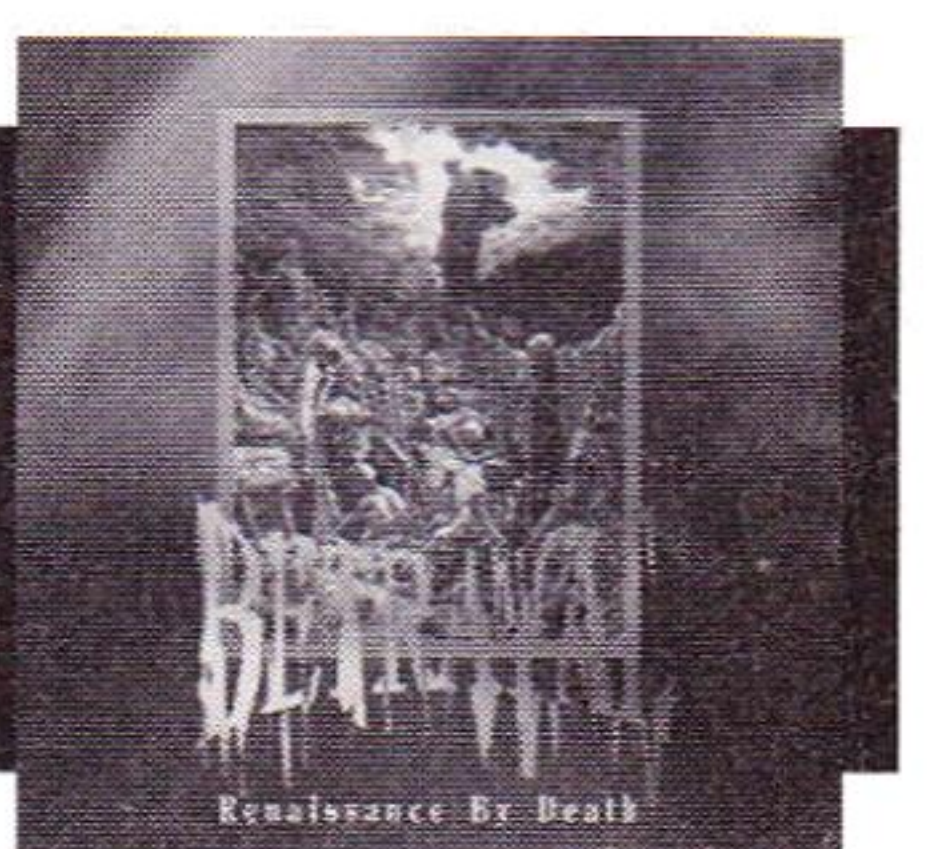


THE STAND
MODERN GUITAR POP AT ITS BEST. #1 ROCK SINGLE "FREE LOVE" - #1 ROCK CD - PURE
ROCK REPORT
THE STAND IN THREE DAYS
LOOK FOR THE "FREE LOVE" VIDEO ON CCM-TV, LIGHT MUSIC, SOLID ROCK VIDEO AND
OTHER CHRISTIAN VIDEO OUTLETS!

GOthic POWER THRASH OF THE HIGHEST COMMON DENOMINATOR, FROM AN
ORDAINED FATE
UNCOMMONLY GREAT NEW BAND



#1 METAL SINGLE AND ALBUM
BETRAYAL
RENAISSANCE BY DEATH



310 EAST CHICAGO STREET « ELGIN *WONDERLAND* « IL « 60120 « TELE/ 708«695«0711

Johnson brings the band closer to a death metal sound than before, while the rest of the band shreds through these six songs with a flurry of speed and tightness. The band is good, and they seem to know their genre well, as "**Image of Deception**" comes off as a musical tip of the hat to Believer (how many other bands can do that?) with its relentless time changes and Kurt Bachman-like growl. The epic-length song "**Sayings of the Wise**" covers a lot of ground and features some killer lead guitar excursions.

This rhythm section keeps getting better and better with every tape released. For those wanting names to go with the music, the rhythm section is: Rob Ojeda on bass, James Chaves on guitar, Ashley Lawhon on drums and vocalist Glenn Johnson playing guitar as well. Fans of the underground would not go wrong in following this band with each new release. To order, send \$7 (checks made out to James Chavez) to: 2114 Yale Avenue, Wichita Falls TX 76301.

--DV

THE TERMINAL GENERATION

Here's a groovin' industrial band with lots of screaming guitar leads to dominate all the excess noise going on all at once here. Human Mole (the name of the guitarist, not a song) is a shreddin' guitarist. The band's most intense moment comes in "**Human Garbage**," which is a no-holds-barred commentary on abortion. With drilling sounds in the background, you'll hear voices like, "Sedate her, now this one survived, make sure she doesn't see it alive/it's freedom of choice/it's freedom to kill." What follows is a sentiment most of us would like to hear an abortionist say, "Oh my God, what's going wrong? The child is alive, not human garbage." The song ends with a closer look at day-to-day reality in the US. "We're almost done, it's almost dead/Next in line, just close your eyes."

The rest of the material is just as intense. The band states its goal as "creating a new standard with fat beats to crush the truth into the heads of the ignorant, bombastic bass to make chests hurt, industrial keyboards to remind the masses of the materialistic oppression they live under, screaming guitars to represent today's anxiety and psychotic vocals that bring into question the sanity of sick society."

Hugo the vocalist's screams in "**The Pain**" rival any of Michael Knott's most passionate moments, capturing real, raw agony. The double-bass monster run in "**She is the Devil**" is full-on brutal. Any speed metal band would love to own the chops displayed by Human Mole here. Hugo adds his own million miles an hour (I'm serious) vocals as well. Wow!

Overall, the songs are tight, have individual direction and have superb sonics. This is the best industrial-like stuff I've heard in the underground. The lyrics make a point to zero in on Jesus and His power to save. It's not totally clear why a couple of art paintings/drawings of semi-nude women appear on the inside of the J-card. It's artsy and not erotic, but sure to raise a few eyebrows. For ordering info, write: PO Box 1906, Monrovia CA 91017.

--DV

ERIKA

This two-man project (Brook Hovland handling all vocals and bass and Will Lafever playing all guitars and drum programs) is an

incredible demonstration of great melodic metal/pop metal songwriting. These tunes could be pumping out over radio waves anywhere.

Lyrical, these guys have a gift for penning lessons into stories. "**Don't Wonder**" is an acoustic ballad that contemplates dying and lonely people wondering "how things ever got that way." The song finds resolution in explaining how we rush through life and don't take the advice that "**Mama Said**" (the preceding song) gives--instead looking out only for "number one" and ignoring those in need around us. With that knowledge, all of us can say that we don't wonder (anymore) how things can get that way.

One could classify the messages in all the songs as very positive/moral metal. The closing number on this 6-song tape contains a cry out to God: "Lord, there's got to be an answer/ either here on earth, yeah/or up in the skies/There's got to be a place called Heaven/Where the people never cry/never cry a tear or live their lives in fear." The song concludes with an interesting introspective answer: "I opened up my weary eyes/looked into the mirror just to find/The answer etched upon my face."

Covered here is an old favorite of mine from Stevie Wonder, called "**Livin' For The City**," chronicling the struggle honest people have just surviving in urban life. What a cool "secular" tune to cover!

Many could rightly say that there are no spoken references to the Name of Jesus or messages on the Roman road to salvation; but it is full of truth.

For ordering info, write: 12228 48th Ave S, Seattle WA 98178.

--DV

BLOOD JUSTICE

Wow! Those who haven't had their heads blown away by good, solid power metal since Barren Cross will be glad to hear the arrival of this competent outfit from Albuquerque, New Mexico. The backbone of this quintet is quite able to rattle your speakers with a solid, tight rhythm. Drummer Brian Tromblay shows his muscle often with power hits on his kit. Guitarists Nathan Johnson and Phil Quintana compliment each other on loud 'n' clear leads and double up to form a wall of sound for the rhythms.

"**Our God Reigns**," a praising declaration of God's character and position, starts this four-song tape off with a roar, showcasing the powerful vocals of Albert Baca. "**Worthy**" is another praise-filled tune that is worthy of the description "Worship at full volume." The tune "**On Fire**" shows the band writing what would've passed for Stryper lyrics in '85. Those who dig a band that is bold about its faith and centers its every lyric around that faith will embrace this outfit with hands held high. "**Second Wind**" shows a melodic side to the band that reminds me of early Def Leppard, with its plodding tempo and pouting vocals; and then the song breaks open into a beautiful anthemic chorus with well-crafted BGV's. This song shows that the band can handle more than one sound with excellence.

To order, send \$5 to: 988 Mountain Valley Road, Tijeras NM 87059.

--DV

STEWPOD

Here's some loud, plodding sonic weirdness that definitely comes together to form a

stewpot of various influences, not the least of which is exceptional guitar playing--sometimes in the melodic vein and other times in an acoustic flamenco flair. It shows some industrial attitude and influence and has tons of energy. "**Liar**" is the heaviest tune, while the instrumental "**As I Look Back**" features the killer guitar work and great tone. The processed vocals during "**I Like Star Trek**" make the humorous lyrics serve no purpose (save for reading), as they're undecipherable. It's so weird that it may not attract a mainstream crowd (duhh!), yet it shows so much creativeness that people willing to try something new will enjoy the taste of Stewpot.

For ordering info, write: Tim Heinen, W 4415 Water St, Hingham WI 53031.

--DV

MODEST ATTRACTION

On this release there's some real good ideas, showing talent in playing and songwriting, but still "missing it" a little in these songs. It's still better than the average underground tape, and there are good moments. In "**Be Your Child**," guitarist Stephan Mohlin gets a happenin' wah-wah sound a la G'n'R that really spiced up the tune. "**Love Shot Me Down**" has a pretty good hook in it, yet still sounds like a band trying to struggle to feel comfortable in the groove. It sounds a bit forced. I bet this band is smokin' hot live. The riffs used for "**Shake the World**" and "**Down on my Knees**" gets rollin' a la Aerosmith and AC/DC. If this talented band keeps it up, they're gonna be known a lot further than Sweden.

To order, send \$4 to: Christian Lillegren, Lundgatan 223, S-556 33 HABO, Sweden.

--DV

DAREN & DAVID SHORT

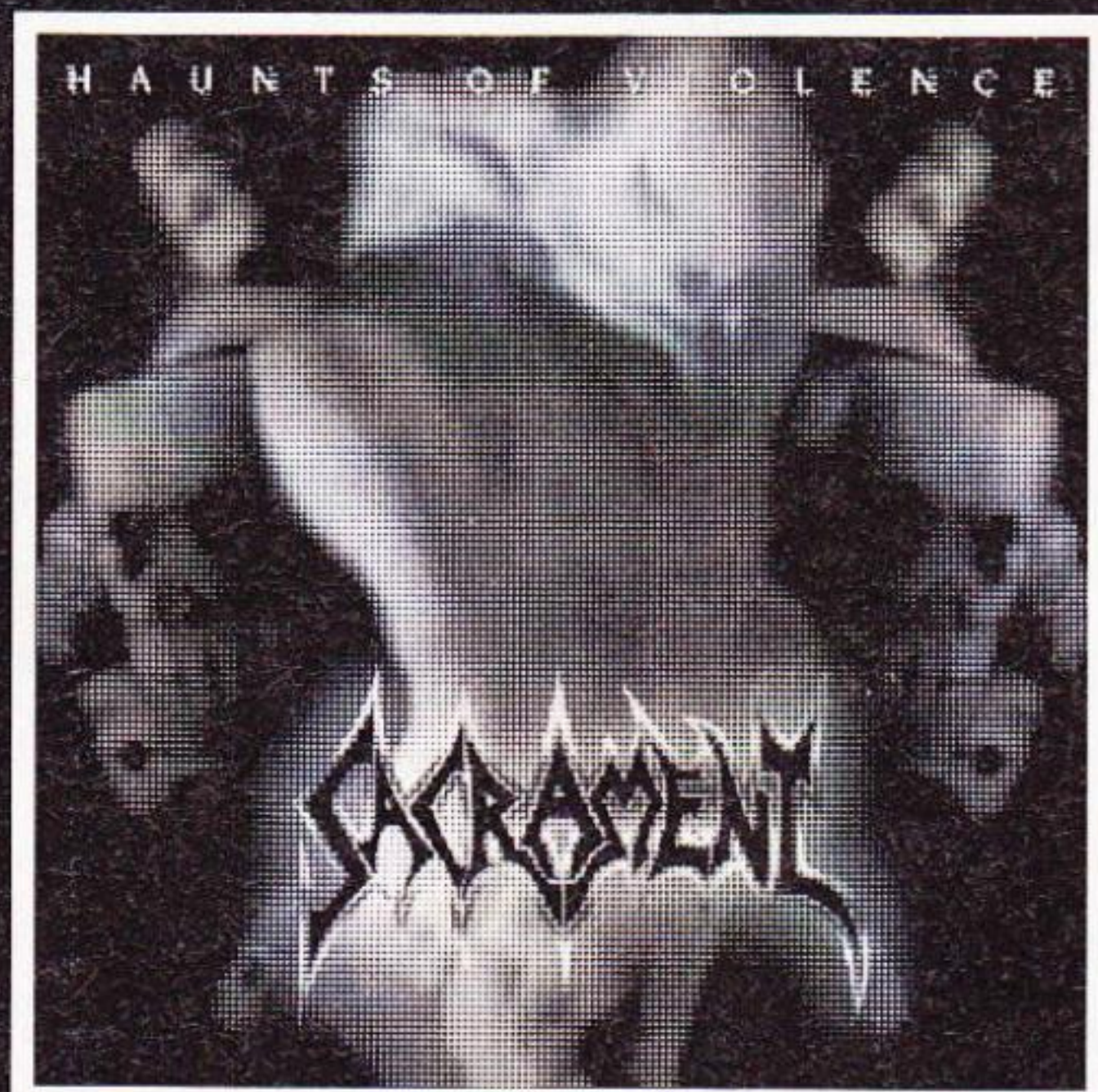
This four-song tape shows some musicians knowing how to hold a great groove. Though these two brothers are a great musical team together, they sometimes split on lyrical direction; which is why there's two versions of the song "**Easier Said Than Done**": Daren's version and David's version. David's version quotes stuff like "Deny yourself, let the Spirit take hold/but it's easier said than done...though I am weak, I know I'm strong in He, Who washed my sins away and set me free;" while Daren's version sports such witty lyrics like, "Well, workin' for a livin' ain't worth what they're givin'...sometimes a little luck is all you need." The "Easier said than done" vocal hook in the chorus sounds a lot like Extreme. "**Never be the Same**" shows the acoustic side of the band and showcases the raw talent of vocalist Brian Tolliver. This brother team, which is looking for a bassist, vocalist and co-guitar player, has the potential to crank out hits. To order one of these pro packaged tapes, send \$3 (plus \$1.25 postage) to: PO Box 33011, Indianapolis IN 46203-0011.

--DV

ROYAL ANGUISH

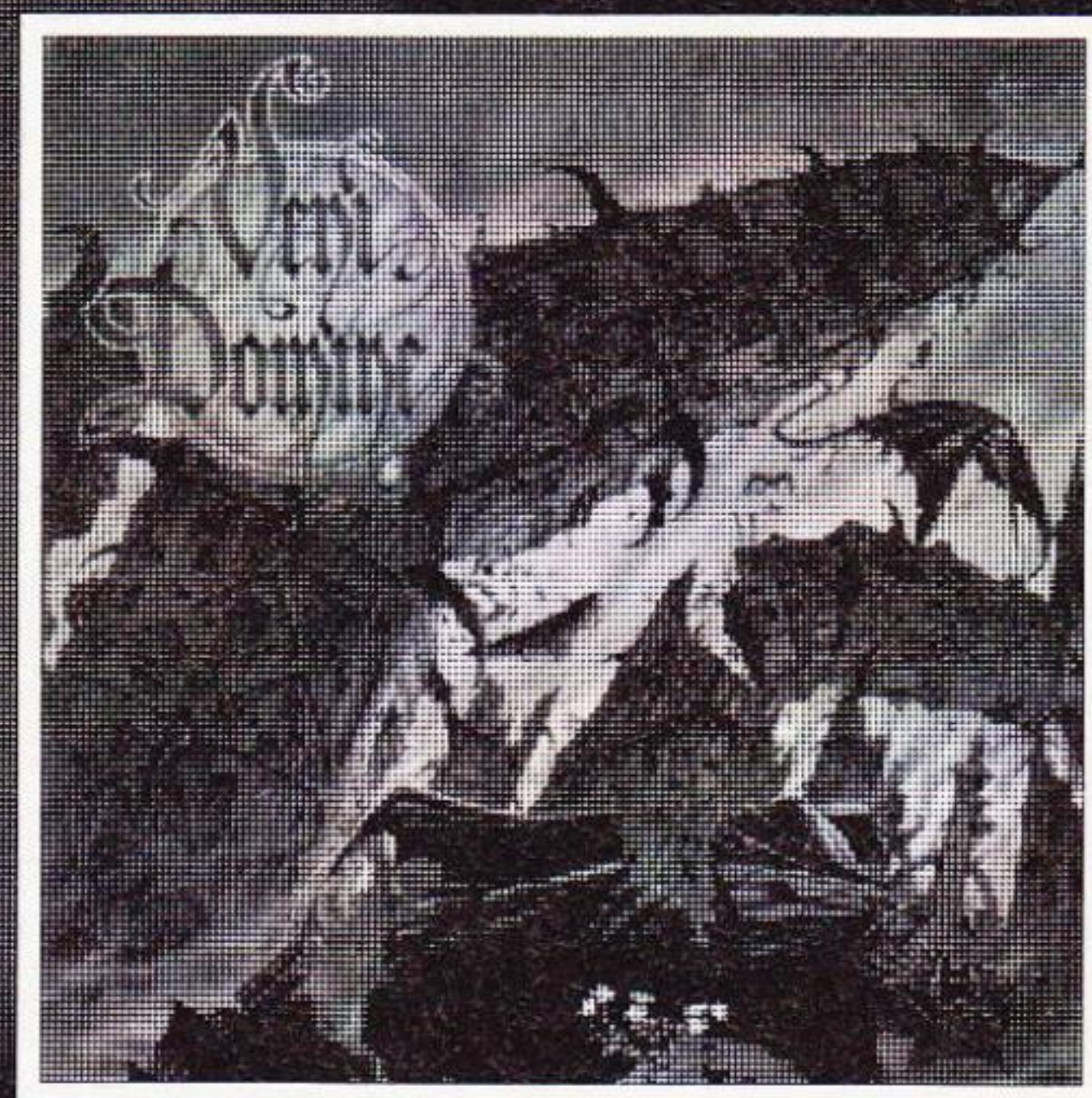
Here's another Florida band in the ever-growing death metal genre to sink your teeth into. When I saw the blank tape with no label, I wasn't expecting much. "**SHOCKED INTO PIECES**" isn't half bad. In fact, I was kind of surprised. All four songs: "**Shocking the Priest**," "**Die Inside**," "**Deny the Corpse**" and "**Rest in Pieces**" are blazing: machine gun

CAUTERIZE YOUR CONSCIOUS



*Emerging From The
Shadows Of A Dark
September Day Comes
A New Offering Of Mind
Shattering Metal That Will
Penetrate The Deepest
Crevices Of Your Soul...*

SACRAMENT
HAUNTS OF VIOLENCE



*Fallen! Fallen Is Babylon The
Great! She Has Become A
Home For Demons And A
Haunt For Every Evil Spirit, A
Haunt For Every Unclean And
Detestable Bird [Rev.18:2]
COMING IN AUGUST*

VENI DOMINE
FALL BABYLON FALL

drums, fast guitars and impossible-to-understand lyrics; but the production is above average, making the tape enjoyable to listen to. Musically, all four songs are pretty good. These Florida boys are making good use of the massive death metal scene in their area, and their chops show they're doing their homework, as well as working up their own brand. If the secular death metal labels, like Road Runner, Grindcore, Earache, etc. were signing Christian death metal bands, they'd probably be talking to Royal Anguish. Their vocalist reminds me a lot of Mike Tyrone (ex-Sacrament). Believe me, your neck should be stiff from the headbanging after listening to this tape.

Pretty decent effort. Gotta go put rubbing alcohol on my neck (it's kinda sore). To order, send a blank tape and \$2; or \$4 to: PO Box 7135, Boca Raton FL 33431.

--Jeff Lott

MICHAEL LAW

Who is this guitarist? Whoever he is, boy is he good! This player from Virginia has put together a four-song demo of great commercial metal. "Make a Joyful Noise" reminds me a lot of Def Leppard's "Rock of Ages," while "Tell it to Me" is a real mellow tune that, if given airplay, could very well go number one! My favorite was "S.I.N." A great song that slowed in the middle to show off the talents of the guitarist before going full blast. This tape had me dancin' all around my living room. Great tape! I'm lookin' real forward to hearing more from Michael Law.

To order, send \$5 to: 7200 Sipes Lane, Annandale VA 22003.

--JL

TRANSCENDENCE

Well, from Fort Worth, Texas comes a band with tons of talent! The self-titled EP has four songs and all are hot! Songs like "Within my Heart" talk about looking for your future mate, while "All for One" is a straight-forward evangelical invitation. Sean Varga's vocals remind me of Jimmy Brown or Rey Parra, while the band musically sounds similar to Barren Cross or Haven.

The only drawback I found was in the production. It is clear, but you might want to turn the bass down a little. A great effort! I look forward to hearing more from this band. For ordering info, write: Mike Swint, 1205 Susan Ln #112, Fort Worth TX 75120.

--JL

ETERNAL FATE

Once again from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area comes a band that's begging to be unleashed to the world. Eternal Fate has released a very strong effort on its debut, three-song demo. The tape gets rolling with "I Need My Love To Be Real," and the first thing that hits me are Steve Canton's amazing vocals, which sound like a cross between Rey Parra and Les Carlsen. The second song, "Evolution," starts off with some soft acoustic guitar playing before going full force. Lyrically, this song is a decree, asking us to wake up. "When will we end this twisted game," and "believe a lie, you'll surely die." The third cut, "Light up the Sky," sounds like a page out of Revelations. "Don't turn away now, for He will come like a thief in the night."

The tape doesn't specify who is the lead guitarist--Steve Tyler or Kevin Foster--but it

doesn't matter, both of them show a lot of maturity in their playing. Bassist Bryan Hilliard and drummer Isais Rodriguez know their stuff as well, rounding out a great band.

I could only come up with two drawbacks: the name, and their style. I like the name, but it doesn't sound too original (Eternal Ryte, Ordained Fate). As for their musical style, although I love this style of music, others may consider it dated. Overall, a fantastic effort from a talented band. To order, send \$4 to: PO Box 271239, Dallas TX 75227-1239.

--JL

WHITE RAY

Why hasn't someone signed this band yet? This is one great band and this is one good tape. It has three songs, one of which, "Sin City," is an acoustic tune. The other two, "Gotta Get Ya," and "Freedom" are good tunes, which lean toward the old style of Bride. The production isn't as good as past efforts, but it still shows the talent of an incredible band. C'mon record labels!

To order, send \$5 to: 5307 Matterhorn Dr, Louisville KY 40216.

--JL

NON-POINT FACTOR

Non-Point Factor is a band from Puerto Rico consisting of members from another band from that area called Sekel. Their seven-song demo is a good combination of blazing metal and high speed thrash. Guitarist Sam Mori's style reminds me of Dave Baddorf (Believer), while vocalist Javier Vazquez sounds a lot like James Hetfield of Metallica. Comparisons to Believer or even Sound Garden wouldn't be too far off.

In my opinion, the two best songs are "Lost Deep Within My Mind" and "Base on a True Story." "Lost..." sounds like one's struggle over depression, while "Based..." is a song speaking out against racism. A very strong debut. I really look forward to hearing more from this band. To order, send \$6 (money orders payable to Robert Rivera) to: Rob, c-6-F-21 Hnas Davila, Bayamon PR 00959.

--JL

CORPUS CHRISTI (Video)

This custom video, called "OUR STUPID HOME MOVIE," is 15 minutes of concert, pre-concert, fun and studio footage edited to two of the band's tunes: "War" and "Footprints," followed by some recording footage in the studio. During this 15 minutes you will get a good earful of Corpus Christi's gothic power metal and an eyeful of the band's humor, fun, stage presence and backflips. Showcased here are some of the band's gigs and stage build-up at some large, impressive venues. To order, send \$5 (plus \$2 postage) to: 1400 Moccasin, Modesto CA 95351.

--DV

PRAZZER

Out of Biloxi, Mississippi comes a band with one of the heaviest tapes I've ever heard! At first I was disappointed, expecting more of a band effort (full length songs), but after listening to the whole project, I must admit I was very surprised. "DOMINATE ME" is a refreshing tape full of surprises.

There is only one real song on the tape, which is the title track. The other nine tunes are full of different sound effects and instrumental

solos. If you're expecting headbanging music, it's not here, although this tape could be considered metal. "Justabitanoize" and "World of Confusion" prove that, but since there's only one "real" song, and the length of the tape being only about 23 minutes, "DOMINATE ME" can't be considered a regular tape. And, believe me, it isn't! To order, send \$6 (cash) to: Pekuliar Muzzik Rekords, 328 Rodenberg Ave, Biloxi MS 39531.

SONS OF ASAPH

Hard 'n' heavy rock with a plodding intensity that melds the sound of grunge with bluesy metal and sometimes--like in the lament "America's Children"--even a hint of the early U2 brash and youthful energetic jangly, hollow guitar sounds. Don't let this description scare you off though, for this band is indeed far to the right on the heavy scale. Best song is probably "Rapture Sky."

To order, send \$5 to: 21526 Consejos, Mission Viejo CA 92691.

--DV

THE PASSION

Here's a 6-song tape of boogie hard rock with some decent hooks and ample production, yet the sonics (specifically the dry drum sound and the aged guitar sound) leave some to be desired. "Wash Me in the Jordan" features a good ole guitar sound, yet the vocals are a tad unrefined. The blues excursion on "Mt. Zion" are pretty good, though. Overall, don't expect anything fancy or too over-the-top. To order, send \$6.50 to: PO Box 4314, Winter Park FL 32793-4314.

--DV

OBEDIENCE

These two guys have put together a fairly decent demo in "UNDER GOD'S STRENGTH." That's right, there were only two guys at the time they did the demo! Their music is self-described as "a hardcore band with a New York style of heaviness to it." I'd have to agree. No thrash, but very intense. Of the six songs, my favorite was "The Trinity." "Life to those that do believe, death for those you don't receive." Real bold lyrics! In fact, all the tunes are real bold. "Wake up and accept the truth, wake up before it's too late" ("Hellbound").

The only drawback is in the production (unfortunately, it's almost always like that in demos). It's below average, but is listen-able. Not bad. I look forward to hearing what they could do with a full band! For ordering info, write: Michael Smith, 10716 Oak Forest Dr, Hagerstown MD 21740.

--JL

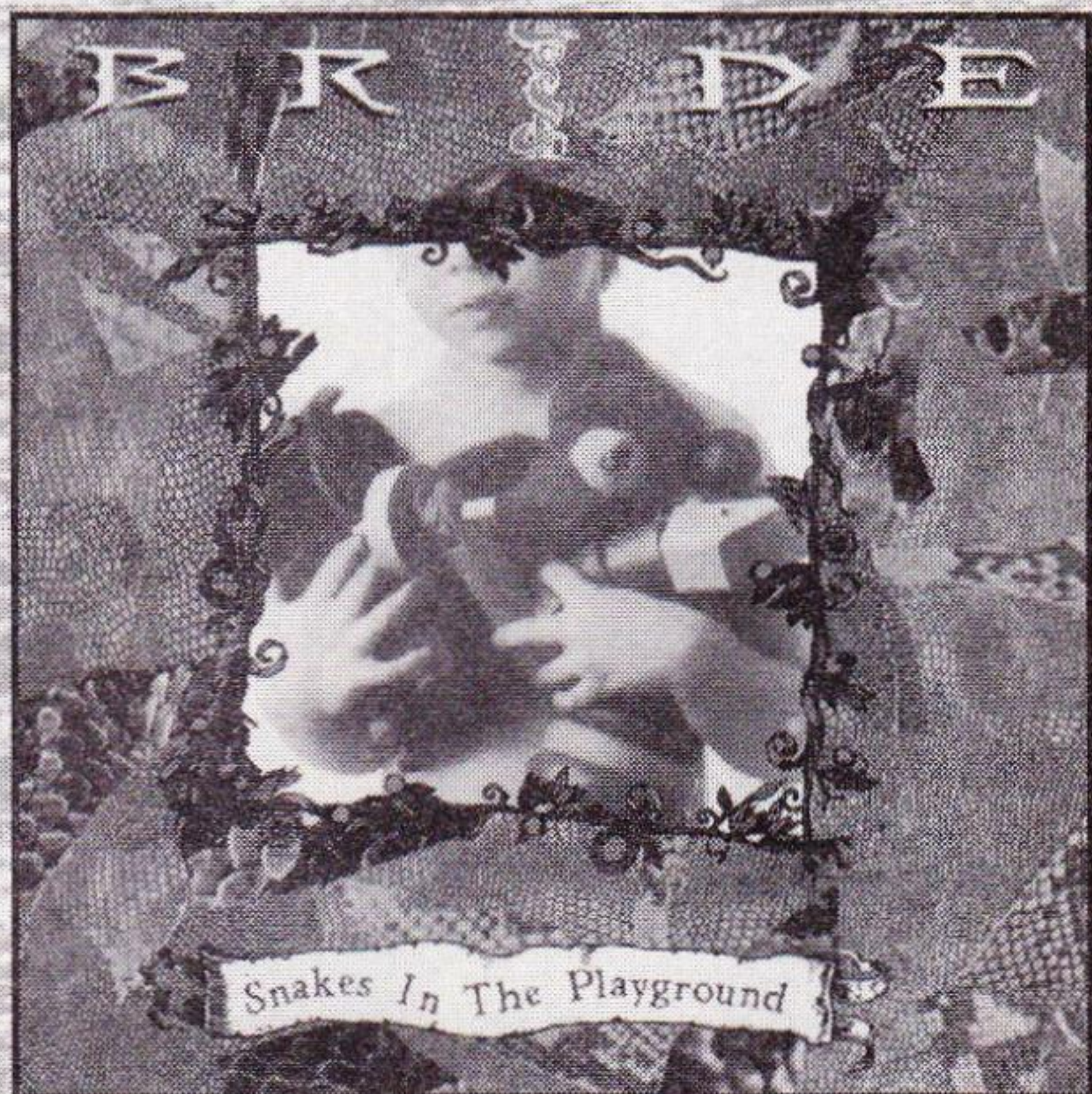
XN

This three-song tape by the group Xn is what you would call typical rock and roll. Nothing that will blow your socks off, but decent metal. The production is below average. The vocals are fair, and the music is good. The best parts are the guitar leads, which stand out pretty good. The instrumental, called "Somewhere," is really good; but, other than that, nothing really caught my attention. Keep up the practice, maybe in the future they'll come up with something impressive. But as for now, I really wasn't.

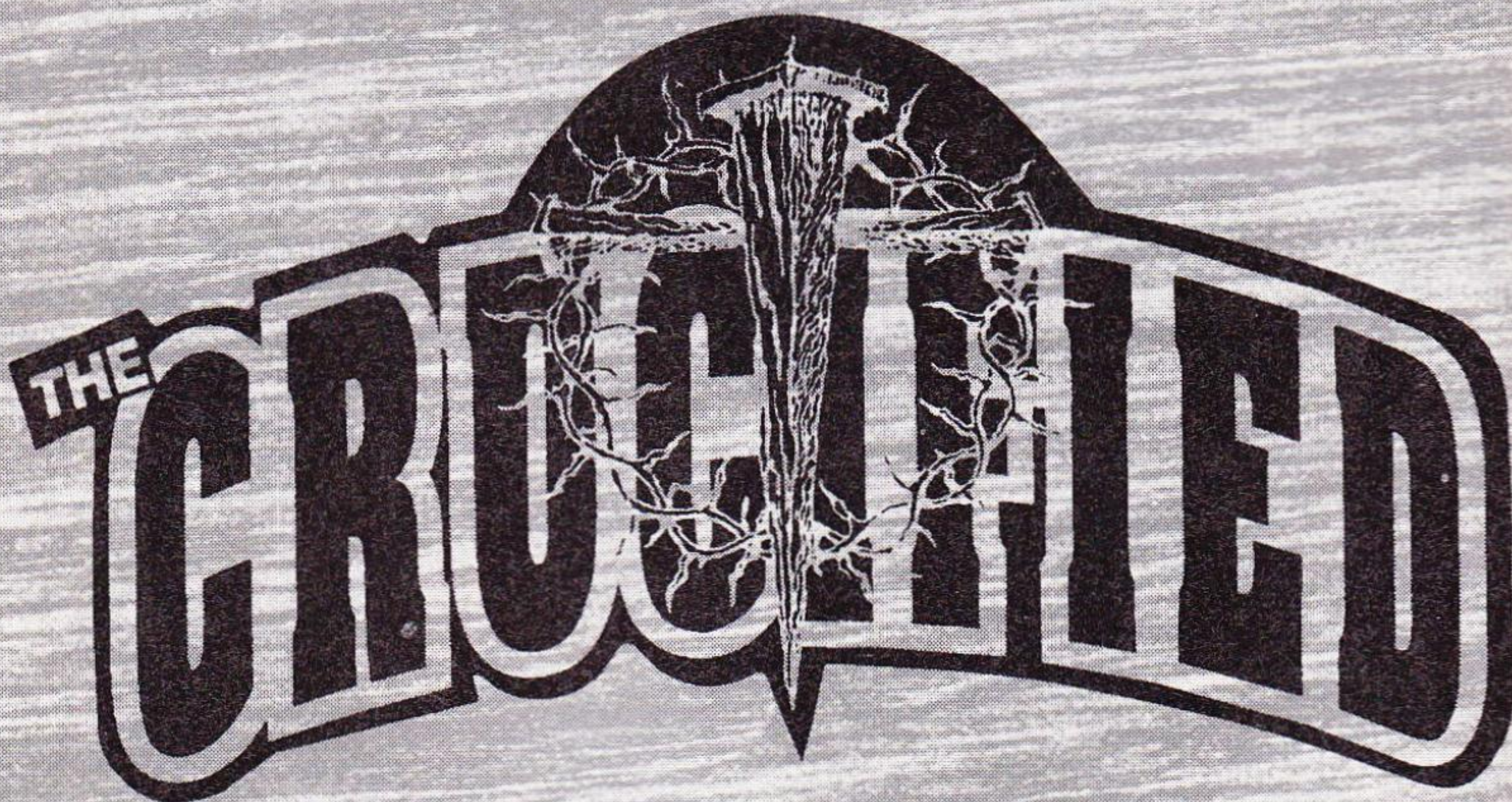
To order, send \$5 to: 1705 8th Ave, Plattsmouth NE 68048.

--JL

CHECK THIS OUT



BRIDE
"SNAKES IN THE PLAYGROUND"



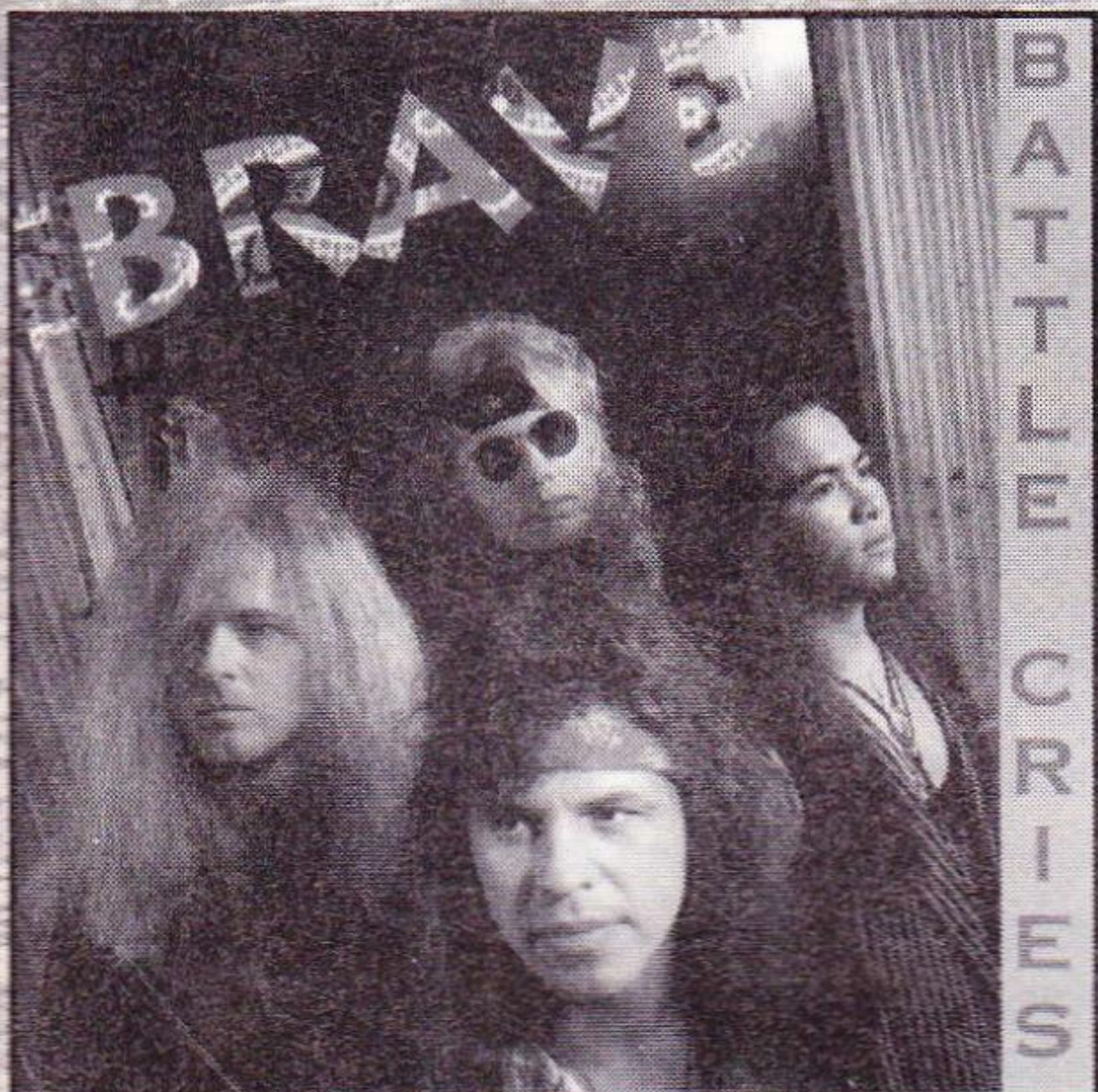
CRUCIFIED LOGO STICKER.....\$2.00

CRUCIFIED LOGO HATS!
BLACK OR WHITE.....\$15.00

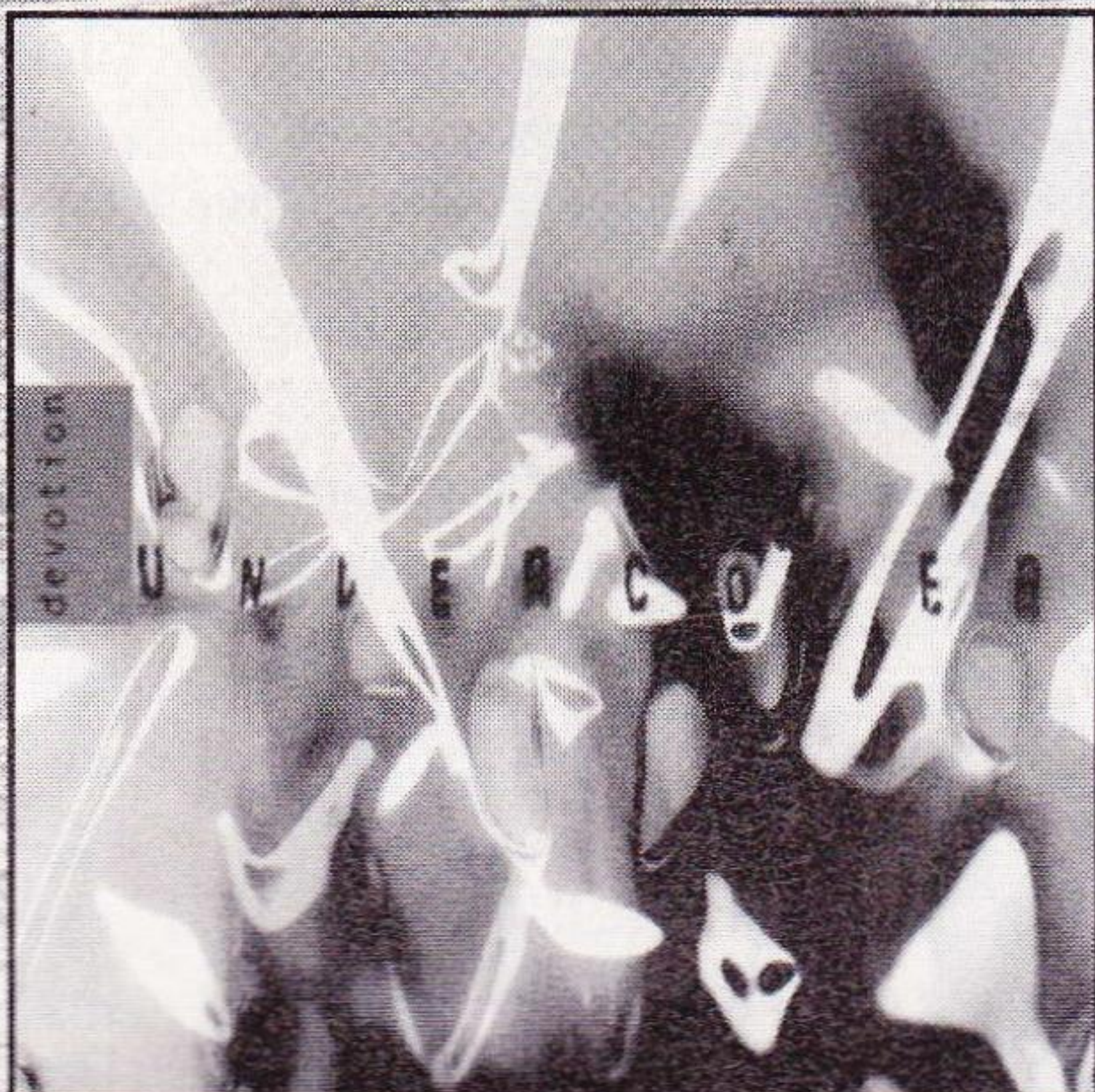
CRUCIFIED T-SHIRTS!

SINNERS SAVED BY GRACE
HATEWORLD

L-XL AVAILABLE.....\$15.00 EACH



THE BRAVE
"BATTLE CRIES"
PAKADERM RECORDS



UNDERCOVER
"DEVOTION"
BRAINSTORM RECORDS

SPECIAL PRICE CASSETTES AND COMPACT DISCS AVAILABLE \$8.98 CASSETTE \$11.98 COMPACT DISC

TITLES IN STOCK THIS ISSUE: APPLEHEAD-"MEANING" THE BRAVE-"BATTLE CRIES" THE CRUCIFIED-"PILLARS OF HUMANITY"
CRYSTAVOX-"THE BOTTOM LINE" DELIVERANCE-"STAY OF EXECUTION" DIE HAPPY FLUFFY-"GO FLUFFY GO"
JOSHUA-"SURRENDER" LOVE LIFE-"GOOD BYE LADY JANE" LUST CONTROLL "WE ARE NOT ASHAMED"

UNDERGROUND FEATURE: PRECIOUS DEATH & SCAPEGOAT- \$8.00 CASSETTE EACH.

OFFICIAL

HEAVEN'S
METAL

MAILORDER

CMG MAIL ORDER
MAKE CHECKS OR
MONEY ORDER PAYABLE
TO CMG

SEND TO:
CMG MAIL ORDER
C/O HEAVENS METAL
PO BOX 43405
AUSTIN, TX. 78745-9998

QTY.	ARTIST(GROUP)	TITLE	FORMAT	PRICE
TOTAL				
8% (TX RES.)				
SHIPPING 10%US (25%FOREIGN)				
GRAND TOTAL				

TEXAS RES. 8% SALES TAX SHIPPING PRICES: ALL U.S. ORDERS AD 10 PERCENT TO TOTAL ORDER, FOREIGN ORDERS MUST BE PAYABLE IN U.S. BANK AND DOLLARS AND AD 25 PERCENT TO COVER POSTAGE. ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

PASTOR BOB

(Photo by Sandra Mayurnik)



In the last issue of Heaven's Metal, I brought up some concerns about the mosh pit at "Christian" concerts. Your response was overwhelming! Here is a sampling of your opinions...

Dear Pastor Bob,

I want to thank you for having the guts to speak your honest opinion on this topic. I'm sure you knew you were stepping into a pretty controversial subject, but I'm glad to see you didn't just take the popular opinion. I went to Cornerstone '92, and I was there during the concert which had the knives flung around in the pit. Something is wrong! Could it possibly be that maybe the pit has a tendency to endorse confusion, chaos, and craziness? Why wouldn't it ever be considered a possibility? Why is it considered so taboo to maybe suggest that just maybe a pit isn't such a good idea at a Christian concert? Not because it's wrong, but because it's a breeding ground for that which is not pleasing to God. I know I'm no expert, but you don't need to be an expert to see that something is wrong!

--Kevin

Dear Pastor Bob,

My opinion on moshing is that you can do it in a nice, clean, Christian manner... It is true that we need to be different than the world, and I am one person who is different than the world!

--Rachel

Dear Pastor Bob,

This is in response to your column in

Issue #37 of Heaven's Metal. I've always liked reading it (Pastor Bob's Column), but this one brought up some things that really needed to be brought up! It's sad that this kind of thing goes on at Christian concerts. Since it is, as you stated, not of God, the only other thing it could be is of Satan. I believe a lot of things in the physical realm are affected greatly by the spiritual realm. And, well dude, prayer works...before a concert people might want to get together and seriously pray hardcore against the spirit of violence...personally, I go to concerts to have fun, because the music is about the only thing in this life that I really enjoy!

--Mark

Dear Pastor Bob,

...maybe counselors should be present at the concerts. That way they can see the offenders and attempt to work with the individuals on their pent-up rage and anger. This would allow the individual to know that others care and want to help.

--Rae Lynn

Dear Pastor Bob,

...what's happening to the Christian realm? There's disunity and disharmony here! I feel more unity and closeness in the secular realm.

--Regina

Dear Pastor Bob,

In response to your latest article in Heaven's Metal, I would like to offer a different viewpoint on the venerable mosh pit.

"Is moshing Christian?" is a hollow question, much like "Is basketball Christian?" Moshing is truly an event, nothing more. It consists of people moving in a circling motion, their bodies twisting and turning to the beat of the music and the rhythm of their expressions. If you have ever seen a cat wake up from a nap in the sun, you see the same movement choreography. Is it wrong then to express yourself in such a manner? Why would it? People call certain body movements satanic. I thought that stuff went out when they decided that the black cats and left-handed people aren't evil.

And stage-diving. What is so bad about it? Every day parents throw their children in the air only to catch them. But when that child grows up and can jump himself, it suddenly is wrong. Most people know the exhilaration of leaping off a diving board into a body of water. The same feeling occurs when jumping off a stage into a sea of people. Is that wrong? Is it evil to jump and let others catch me?

The problem with the whole mosh thing is the attitude of the people actually participating. You see, if you are not in the pit, or have never stage-dived, you are slightly uninformed about what truly takes place in the pit. To mosh is to express yourself. To dive is to express yourself. But there always is someone who isn't in there for that reason. You always have one or two idiots whose sole purpose in life is to see how far they can push people. The kind of person who comes up behind a mosher doing his own thing in his own time, and slams him forward into someone else... Same with diving. Most guys just climb up, take a look to see the people will catch him, and then jumps. But no, there always has to be some guy

that runs sideways across the stage and jumps high and far, slamming into people who couldn't even see him a couple seconds before.

It is the same with secular shows and Christian shows. Most Christian shows go well. But why, in a room full of supposedly "changed" people, are there guys that pull the idiot stuff? I don't know. I guess some have not changed enough, haven't realized that their old nature of selfishness and violence is gone. Maybe they don't know better. So, someone sit down and tell them. Don't push them away, or slam them. I guess the biggest reason is stupidity. I mean, I hear people talking before the show all this smack like, "We're going to jack some people up. Let's take out the pagan in the Suicidal shirt." That is plain stupid. Especially because nobody even talks to the guy in the Suicidal shirt, and that is the whole point of the concert.

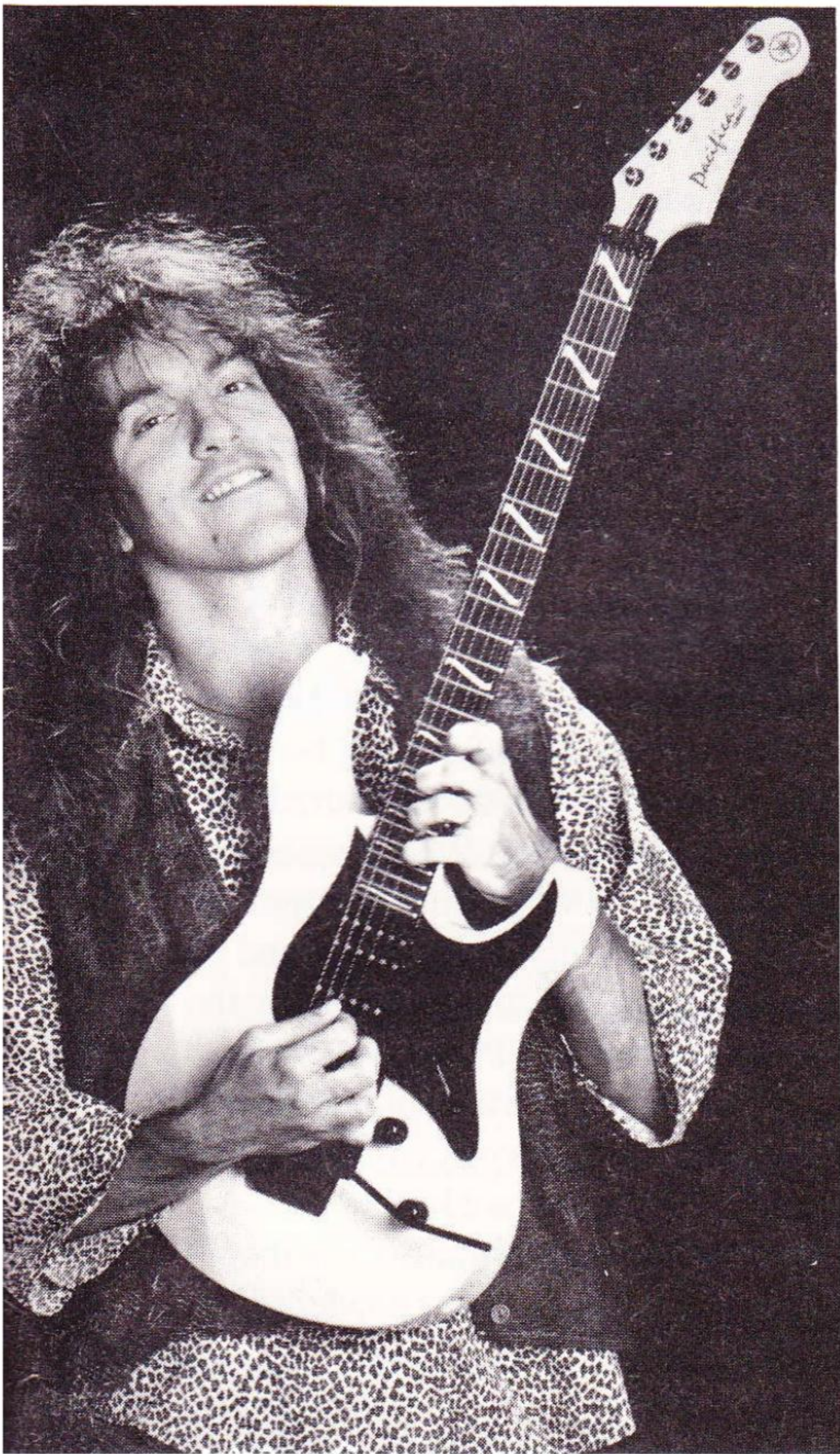
I think that some moshing Christians actually try too much to be like the world (direct disobedience to the Word, I might add!). They put up this front like, "Yeah, I used to mosh to the hardest pits ever," like everybody else will say, "Ooooooh, Ahhhh!" Does anybody really care how they used to mosh? No. It is like the whole testimony-battles people have. "Who was the worst before Christ?" It starts with one saying something they did bad, the next person says something they did worse, and the game continues until nobody can top the last testimony. Some people in the pit want to be sooooo tough, so other people think, "Gosh, this is a rough guy now, I bet he was really tough as a pagan." Wrong! People think that guy is an idiot for acting that way.

I mosh. I have stage-dived. I like it. Let me tell you what is cool about going in the pit. What is cool is picking up a stumbling guy wearing a Slayer shirt who thanks you. What is cool is me, a long-hair, moshing arm-in-arm with a skinhead who I would never talk to on the street. What is cool is seeing short-hairs, long-hairs, skins, punks, blacks, whites, mexicans, nerds, jocks, all these people expressing themselves in the pit together without making fun of each other. What is cool is earning the respect of the non-believers. Having someone who doesn't know our Savior telling you, "You're crazy man!" People who are in the pit honestly don't mind being knocked around. And when you are tough in a good way--that is, helping people who fall, accepting people of a different style, and yet being your own person, not letting other people push you around--people will respect that. And they want to talk to you. At Cornerstone, I personally got to talk to a lot of non-believers, only because they like my style. They respected me.

--Tom

Many thanks to all of you who wrote with your comments! Keep the cards and letters coming in! Until next time...

If you need someone to talk to, remember that the Sanctuary 800 Lines are available 24 hours a day. In the U.S. and Canada, dial 1-800-548-5222. For a copy of our latest newsletter containing a complete listing of Pastor Bob's teaching tapes and Bible study materials, please send a SASE to: "Pastor Bob's Column," Sanctuary Church, PO Box 4130, Redondo Beach, CA 90278-8330. **HM**



LICKS & TRICKS

By Jeff Scheetz

Now I can understand that it's not their thing, and they don't want to turn into a forum for religious debate, but I wasn't preaching, I was just talking about it. The worst part about it was that I then received a couple of letters from Christian brothers who were "upset" that I hadn't mentioned that I was a Christian!

The hardest to believe was an interview I did with a well known midwest music paper. The interviewer had his tape recorder running and the interview went real well. A month later the issue came out and I couldn't believe my eyes. Not only were my responses to his questions phrased in ways I don't speak, and with words I can't ever remember using, but he had also deemed it

necessary to "spice up" my parts with some swearing! I guess I just wasn't "rock star" enough without a little cussing thrown in. Needless to say, I called the editor and, fortunately, they reprimanded the writer in the next issue and printed my rebuttal.

These are just a couple of examples of what sometimes happens, and I've heard countless other stories from artists who have had similar bad experiences; some honest mistakes, and some just plain lies. So don't be too quick to burn all of your favorite artist's CD's the next time some publication spots them in the local pub or at a mud wrestling match.

Okay, one more example: How many of you, about a year and a half ago, had someone come rushing into your room and scream, "Have you seen the new Amy Grant video on MTV!!?"

"Uh...no," you say.

"Well, I've heard she's left her husband, shot her dog, and joined a coven!"

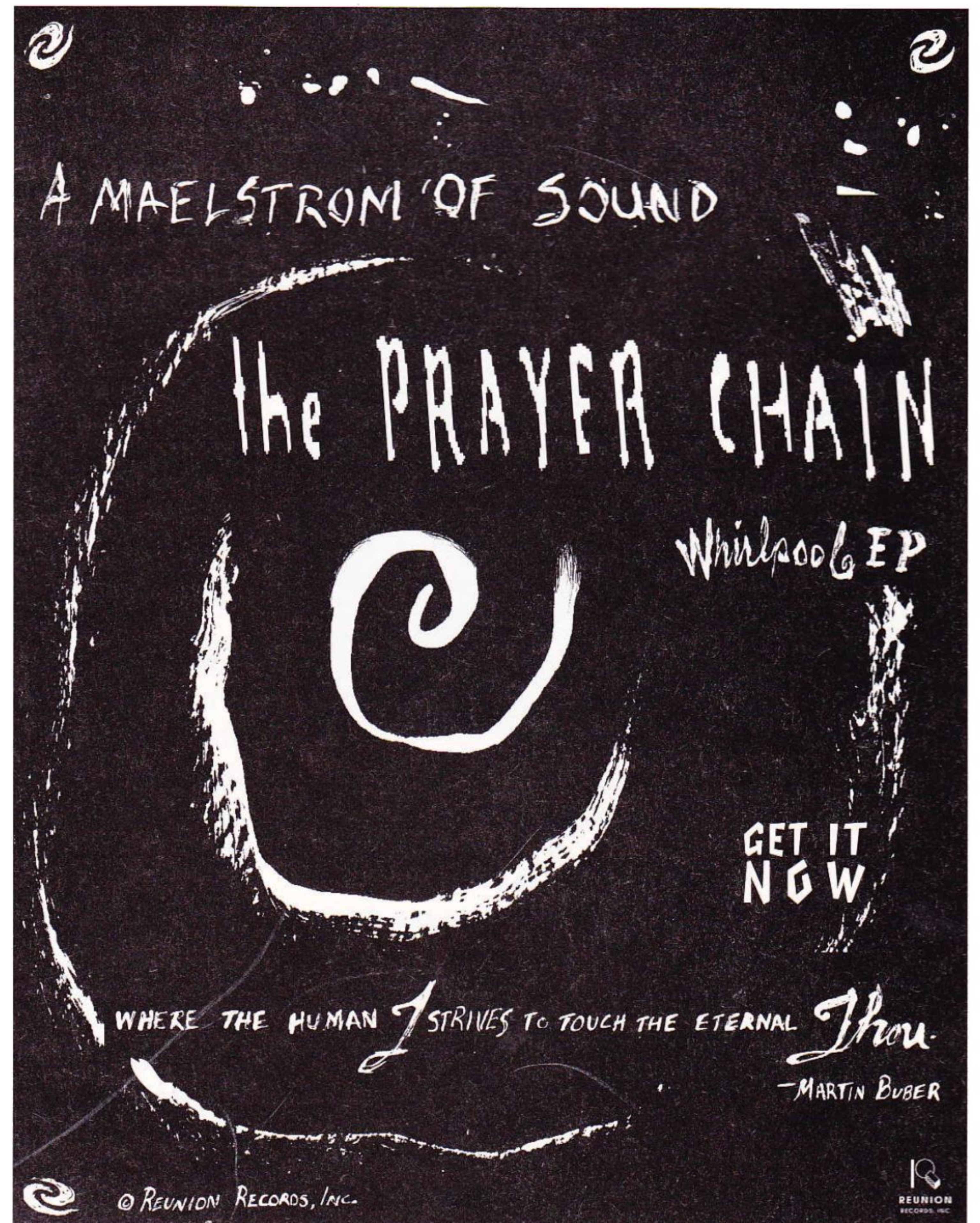
As they leave the room babbling,

I was all set to do the next column in this series on the minor pentatonic scales, when I noticed a mistake in the last column (Issue #37). It listed the notes of the scale as G, B sharp, C, D, and F. It should have been B flat instead of B sharp. Now, whether this mistake occurred at the typesetting stage, or if it was just a matter of the Heaven's Metal staff not being able to read my questionable handwriting is not known. (It was most likely the latter!) In any case, this led me to decide to abandon my "normal" column and discuss our perceptions and reactions to what we hear or read.

First of all, mistakes can happen. So when you come across something that you think or even know is wrong, don't be too quick to get judgmental. Even the best-intentioned Christian publications can have a misprint. Sometimes we Christians forget this as we are so used to reading the mistake-free Word of God.

So you say, "No problem, I'll keep that in mind." Great, now what about the secular press? Oh sure, they make honest mistakes too, but sometimes there is even more to it!

Over the past couple of years I've been fortunate enough to get some press in some of the larger secular magazines. While some of it has been accurate and very well done, it's not always so. One guitar magazine in particular saw fit to print everything I said...except, of course, anything I said about being a Christian.



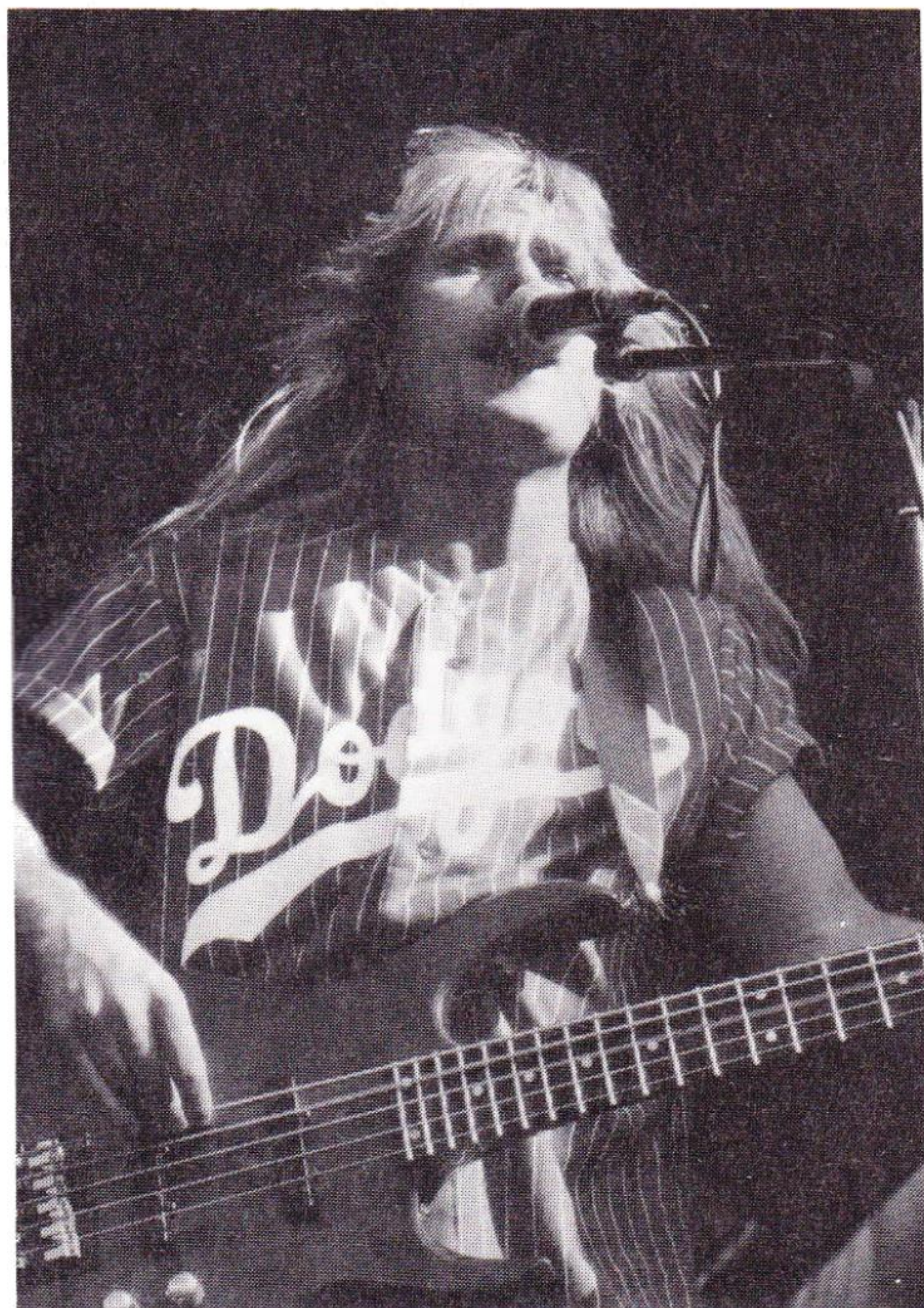
you sit there scratching your head thinking, "but wait, isn't a Christian being in front of millions of non-Christians a good thing? Oh well, back to work." And then when her much-feared evil CD finally comes out, you peel open the lyric sheet with much trepidation, and read the words to a song called "Hope Set High": "If there's anything good that happens in life, it's from Jesus." What's this? No goat slaying here? I'll be darned.

Well anyway, the moral to this whole story is that as Christians we desperately need to support and love each other, not be judgmental and suspicious of each other. If there are questions in your mind about an artist or something you've read, check it out for yourself and pray about it. There will be times when accusations and doubts are true. We all know that Jesus did warn us that there would be "false prophets" and that we should "test all things, and hold fast to that which is good." But just be sure you're not too quick to cast the first stone against a fellow believer.

HM

INSIDE/OUT

By David Bach



(Photo by Steve Craig)

Hello People!

Greetings from the studio!

We've been holed up here since Cornerstone and have yet to see daylight (just kidding). Living on fast food and ultraviolet light gives one a great studio tan! Seriously, by the time you read this, our new record will be finished and I will have reaped a harvest of my own good (or bad!) advice. (Does the word "comeuppance" mean anything to you?!)

Anyway, the lovely lads in Tortured Virtue have finally finished their album! Our friends happily celebrated on the final night of mixing with a total pig out at Dairy Queen! All the guys slept in the next day, except Ace, who begged and pleaded with Sal to take him to the mastering session. Ace was amazed that the mastering lab was not this huge complex, but was merely a mini-studio with various types of tape machines and lots of equalizers. It turned out that the mastering engineer, Johnny Top End, had mastered all of the impressive compilation albums from K-Jel Records (Ace was impressed!).

It was most interesting to watch as Sal and Johnny discussed and set up E.Q. frequencies for the mastering process. Ace was amazed to discover that mastering was merely the process of making master copies of the master tape, so master copies can be made for the masses (notice my masterful use of the word "master?"), hence the term mast...(Oh!--ENOUGH!!)

Where was I? Oh yeah, Ace was blown away that the mastering process seemed just like making a tape dub at home, using an equalizer to boost and cut frequencies to your liking. To Ace's ears, Sal and Johnny were "mastering" everything too bright. Ace could not figure out why he was the only one in the room with golden ears. He then decided that the only way to save his band's musical masterpiece was to invoke the studio-tested technique of Sal-baiting. "Hey Sal, whadya say I go to the corner and getcha a burrito?" Sal's eyes lit up as he eagerly kicked down a fiver into Ace's sly little hands. "...And Ace, don't forget--extra cheese!"

"Sure Sal, no problem...and, by the way, do you think we could run a test cassette with less treble and..."

Meanwhile...as the other unsuspecting members lay peacefully dreaming platinum dreams in the loft above Murray's studio, a knock came upon the door... And who could it be, but dear old Uncle Jake paying them a surprise visit. "Hello boys!

Sorry to wake you, but look who I brought with me: the world famous booking agent, Burt Weaselman! We need to talk right now. We've got big plans for you boys...Big Plans!" (The fun is just beginning.)

Survey sez:

So what do mastering and booking have in common? Well, you must be mastered before you can be booked (A bad joke!). Seriously, both mastering and booking are ventures into the great unknown. As for our pal Ace, mastering is not as simple as it looks. A mastering engineer must compensate for the endless dubs that will take place before your little shrink-wrapped tape hits the street. Most mastering engineers

have great ears, so it's best to let them have at it (You can usually get a second set of reference masters cut if necessary). Be sure to play the refs on many different decks to really hear what it sounds like. We (Guardian) usually send our stuff back for additional mastering (for that last final tweak).

Booking! "Holy aluminum Batman--foiled again!" Uh Oh! We've really opened up a can of worms here in the wild wacky world of concert booking. We'll see how our bro's in Tortured Virtue fare with the great Burt Weaselman next issue, but now...a word from our sponsor:

"The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but man is tested by the praise he receives." (Proverbs 27:21)

"Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf." (Proverbs 11:28)

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10)

Copyright (c) 1992 David Bach HM

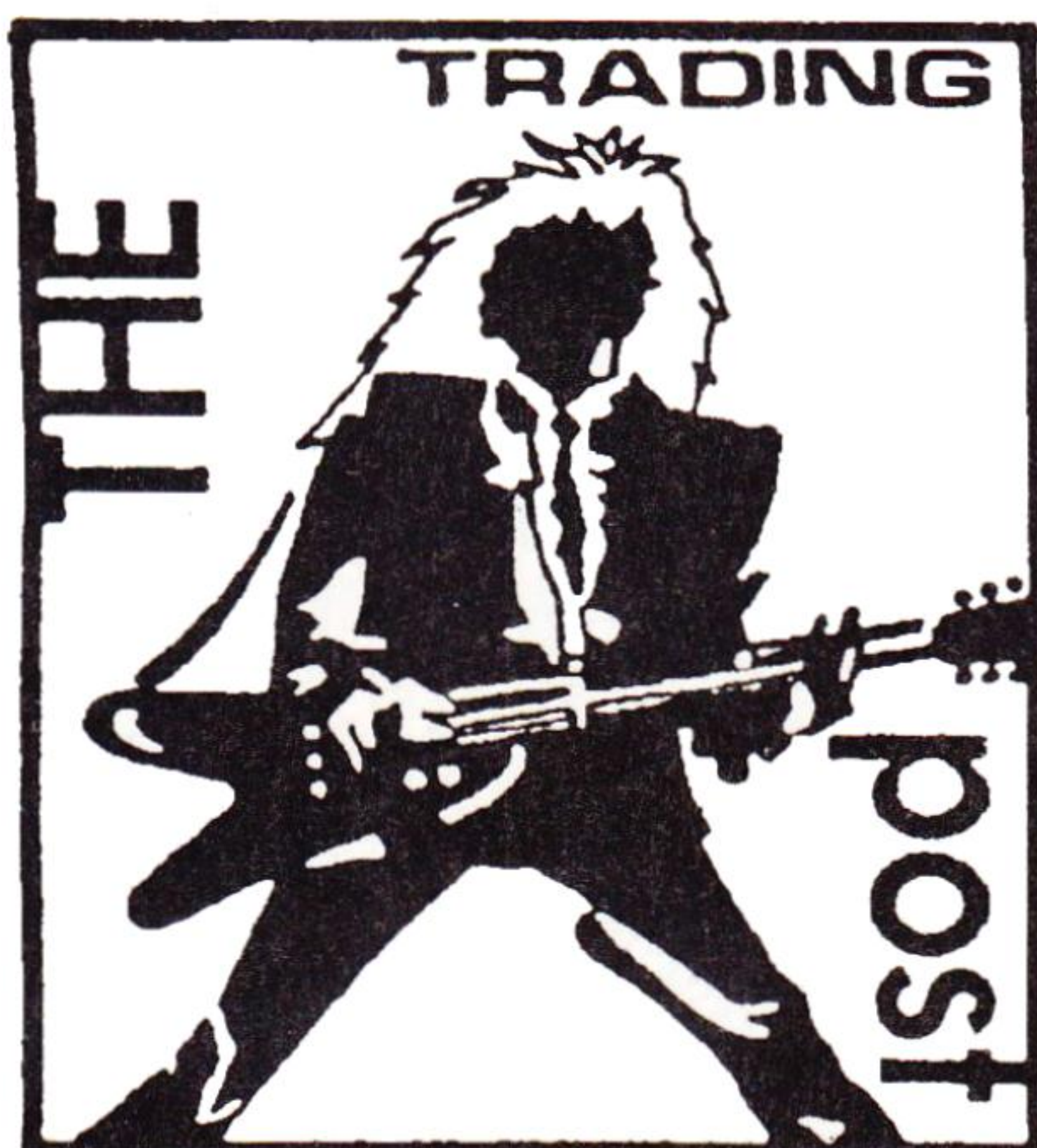
!!!

!!!

Bands - Studios

Bring in your "Finished"
2-track and have it
Mastered in
3-Dimension

You won't believe the
difference - Free Demo
Also, 24, 40 track Digital
Recording - Call Mike Taylor
AC (214) 239-9636



Trading Post classified ads are \$20 for 50 words or less, and \$0.50 per word beyond 50 words. Radio shows must send paid ads on station letterhead.

* **Notebored:** the home of serious rock 'n' roll. Covering Christian rock and Christians in rock. Artists such as Charlie Peacock, Holy Soldier, Mark Heard, Guardian, Sam Phillips, Betrayal, da, Out of the Grey and King's X. Listeners of rock, rap, metal, alternative, or even pop send \$8 for a 1 year subscription (6 issues) to: Notebored Subscriptions, PO Box 238, Atglen PA 19310-0238 or call (215) 593-7176 and be billed with your first issue. A sample issue is available for \$2 pre-paid.

* **The Cutting Edge:** \$9 for 12 issues (Overseas send \$20). Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando FL 32810.

* **White Throne #12** is now out. Major interviews with: Bride, Sacrament, Brian Healy/D.A.S., Stinging Rain, Hoi Polloi, Radiohalo, Scott Blackwell, and more. Read Commander Mosh's Thrash Report. Over 80 album & demo reviews spread over 68 pages. Send \$3 for issue #12. To subscribe, send \$12 for the next 6 issues to: White Throne, PO Box 20577, Dept H, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

* **ACM JOURNAL:** A pretty exhaustive listing of Christian rock music with addresses. Write: PO Box 1273, Sumner WA 98390.

* **Gospel Metal** - For a sample issue, send \$3 to: Keith Day, 3533 E. Chapman Ave., Ste. L-271, Orange CA 92669-3814.

* **THIS PROPHECY** The Christian Rock mag that grows hair! Rock 'n' Roll, Hard Rock, Heavy Metal, Thrash, Grindcore, Hardcore, Death Metal, Speed Metal, Pop Metal, Glam, Slam. Call it what you will! If it's head-rattling, holy, heavy stuff, it's in THIS PROPHECY MAGAZINE! Interviews, record reviews, guitar instruction, reader mail, giveaways, cartoons, lots-o-photos, the latest rock news, new bands, equipment and much, much more. Subscribe today! Just send \$8 U.S. (\$10 Canada, \$25 Foreign) in check or money order to: This Prophecy, PO Box 391, Lewis Run PA 16738.

* **TiSch & ChriSto**, Germany's leading Christian **underground distributor** would like to sell your demo/custom tape/CD too. Send sample for review and consideration. We are also interested in all kinds of merchandise. Write today when you're interested in distribution out here! Chris Stoll, Grafendeichstr. 60, 6000 Frankfurt/M. 70, West Germany..

* **THE CD TRADER SEZ:** If yule send us a SASE, yule know why we are far ahead of our Christmas competition. Free catalog from PO Box 34144, Louisville KY 40232..

* **ANTIOCH**, one of Missouri's better Christian metal bands, is seeking a **new lead singer**. Must have potent vocal ability, outgoing stage personality, rock and roll appearance, be career-minded, and be nuts about Christ. Call Jay at 314-443-6330 evenings. Jay Downing, 34 Rustic Meadows Hwy 63N, Columbia MO 65202..

* **WANTED: CHRISTIAN WRITERS**, poets, artists, etc. for the Narrow Gate Zine. We hope to cover Christian bands from alternative, to thrash, to industrial, to Carmen. Bands send demos. Editors send zines for trade. To get involved, write: The Narrow Gate, c/o Shauna Sky, 6334 S. Long, Chicago IL 60638..

* **LOSE WEIGHT** - Burn body fat. 100% Natural, Dr. Recommended, Guaranteed! For complete info, send \$3.00 to: Norma Perez, 1511 E. 7th St, Ontario, CA 91764..

* **Jam (Jesus and Me)** is the only mag fully devoted to underground Christian Metal. Find out the scoop on up-and-coming Christian Metal bands. Each issue features interviews, reviews, concert info, contests, color pictures and much, much more. \$2/sample; \$9/5-issue subscription. Steve Ertelt, PO Box 3246, 1601 Hardrider, Conway, AR 72032..

* **Christian Lead Guitarist** Seeks Christian Rhythm Guitarist/Lead Vocalist to form Band. Some influences include Kiss, New York Dolls, and Hanoi Rocks. 512-873-5937. Leave voice message..

* **GUITARIST** looking to join/form established Christian metal band. Willing to relocate if offer is good. Former lead guitar player for **PARADOX**. Fernando Hernandez, (512) 841-8236 (M-F) or (512) 436-4353 nights..

* Do you want to grow in Christ through Christian metal/punk music and make new friends too? Then join **METAL EXPRESS!!** Send a SASE for more info to: Metal Express, 1118 1/2 S. 13th Street, Temple, TX 76504 USA.. **HM**

METAL RADIO CHART

Here are the TOP 20 METAL SINGLES (reprinted courtesy The CCM Update) as of October 5th:

- 1 "Real"
Die Happy
- 2 "Divination"
Haven
- 3 "S.O.S."
Bloodgood
- 4 "Spineless"
Tourniquet
- 5 "No More Lies"
Seraiah
- 6 "Falling Away From Reality"
Seventh Angel
- 7 "Crutch"
Applehead
- 8 "No Grave Concern"
Living Sacrifice
- 9 "Snakes in the Grass"
Crystavox
- 10 "Inflamed"
Mortification
- 11 "If I Lose My Way"
Mad At The World
- 12 "Rattlesnake"
Bride
- 13 "Hallow's Eve"
Holy Soldier
- 14 "When Secrets Cry Out Loud"
Shout
- 15 "Let's Make A Deal"
Ordained Fate
- 16 "Stay Of Execution"
Deliverance
- 17 "Fallen Deceived"
Betrayal
- 18 "Kiss The Train"
Bride
- 19 "Temples On Fire"
Sacred Warrior
- 20 "History"
Xalt

ROCK/METAL SALES CHART

Here is a sampling of what one store (Ministries for Christ in Austin, TX) has sold of rock and metal in July, August and September.

- 1 STAY OF EXECUTION
Deliverance
- 2 THROUGH THE FOREST
Mad At The World
- 3 SCROLLS OF THE MEGILLOTH
Mortification
- 4 DIGITAL PRIESTS
Deitiphobia
- 5 IN THE KINGDOM
Whitecross
- 6 AT THE TOP OF THEIR LUNGS
Shout/Tamplin
- 7 UNSEEN POWER
Petra
- 8 DESTRUCTION COMES
Vengeance Rising
- 9 BIG BANG
Magdallan
- 10 LUSIS
Mortal
- 11 DIE HAPPY
Die Happy
- 12 WE ARE NOT ASHAMED
Lust Control
- 13 DECADE OF LOVE
Mylon & Broken Heart
- 14 DEVILS ANGELS & SAINTS
Dead Artist Syndrome
- 15 LIQUID EARTH
Novella
- 16 HEAVEN'S METAL COLLECTION
Various
- 17 MORTIFICATION
Mortification
- 18 ROCK CRIES OUT
Petra Praise
- 19 TIME IS ALL IT TAKES
Angelica
- 20 REVELATION 19:21
Wigtop

TOUR DATES

WHITECROSS

11/4	Mishawaka IN	219-258-5016
11/5	Sturgis MI	219-484-1029
11/6	Fort Wayne IN	" "
11/7	Lafayette IN	" "
11/9	Canada	705-734-3325
11/10	Canada	" "
11/12	Canada	" "
11/13	Canada	" "
11/14	Canada	" "
11/15	Elizabethville PA	" "
11/17	Tampa FL	813-852-5252
11/18	Florida	
11/19	Florida	
11/20	Orlando FL	407-282-4537
11/21	Jacksonville FL	904-641-3262
11/22	Florida	
11/23	Mobile AL	205-473-8488
12/4	Detroit MI	313-485-4515
12/5	Columbus OH	614-861-7621
SERAIAH		
11/6	Owensboro KY	812-477-3104
11/11 to 11/17	El Salvador & Guatemala	
11/20	Clearwater FL	813-725-3779
11/21	Coral Springs FL	305-341-5444
12/4	Minneapolis MN	612-379-2858



BABBLING ON

I have been a Christian for three years. For two years I have subscribed to Heaven's Metal. This letter is in reaction to an article in Issue #37 (page 14-17) called "What Babylon A.D. Says." I guess what I really want to know is: How can you seriously call Heaven's Metal a Christian magazine and print such sickening, bad language as in this article? Asterisks or not, you printed foul words 27 times in this article. Your magazine is starting to remind me of the Hit Parader or Circus magazines I used to buy before I was saved.

To be a Christian requires living a different set of moral standards and keeping oneself away from trash like this. Ask yourself this: If Jesus came right now, would you let Him read this article? I'd be totally ashamed!! Why do you waste pages in your magazine on worldly garbage bands like these? There is such a thing as "good taste." You could edit out (totally) the vulgar language. If you were a "true Christian," you would understand my point. By printing this trash, you're sending a message to thousands of kids that it's okay to have a foul mouth and be a Christian. You're not setting a good example of a Christian. Who are you trying to impress? (Surely not God) I'm letting you know that I will be praying for you, that you will clean up "Heaven's Metal." If I see one more article like this in Heaven's Metal, I surely will cancel my subscription and pray every day to discourage "Heaven's Metal's" success as a magazine.

Heaven's Metal has an awesome opportunity to impact a lot of people, but I feel Satan has crept into some cracks that have opened up in your ministry. I'm sure through God you will find a way to close up the cracks and continue with a more fruitful ministry.

--James E. Doyle
Albion, New York

After reading your letters section in your recent issue, I've had it! I've had it with all the judgmentalism many of the readers (at least the letter writers) seem to be practicing. Everyone is nit-picking and tearing down the bands and their ministries and tearing you guys apart, too. It makes me sick!!

They seem to be stalking and

waiting to pounce on the first band (or, in your case, magazine) to make a mistake. I'd like to see these so-called Christians (or should we say Pharisees) in their walk with the Lord. I'm sure they never blow it--NOT!! I was one of the guys who didn't receive my Heaven's Metal when I was supposed to. You guys made a mistake--SO WHAT? You were big enough to admit your mistake (time and again) and even offer to pay restitution for it. God bless you for that. You've got my forgiveness.

I couldn't believe the guy who called himself a brother in Christ and then threatened to sue you guys. Sue?!! For what? A \$12 magazine subscription? Gimme a break! Concerning judges, James writes: "There is One Lawgiver Who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?" (James 4:12) And again, concerning the tongue: "Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so." (James 3:10) Indeed, my brethren, these things ought not to be so.

--Scott Wilson
Escondido, California

In the last issue of Heaven's Metal (#37), the "Letters to Ed," there seemed to be much controversy with the interview with Holy Soldier and their specific word choice. Mind you, I'm not advocating impure speech, but I must admit that I am getting distressed over all of the hoopla surrounding this topic.

The purpose of this letter is not necessarily to address the issue of profanity (borderline as it may be), but to admonish some brothers about poor methods of dealing with disagreements. The two letters under "I'm not your cuss word, am I?" may have had excellent points, but their attitude was most ungracious. (And being that sin is not only action, but attitude of the heart, I think maybe we need a slight adjustment.) In the first letter, I found an almost angry, judgmental tone about the inclusion of slightly edited cuss words. The final comment was, "If you're going to run a Christian magazine, then make sure it's a Christian magazine (my paraphrase)." To judge HM's Christianity by words used by others in their interviews is not fair. Possibly, if HIM had left the entire word,

then there might be cause for correction.

However, I see that HM's editing of the words shows their convictions about their disapproval of profanity, but still holding on to journalistic integrity. I think to completely censor every foul word that entered an interview would not be the highest quality of journalism or fairness to the individual (no matter how non-Christian they are). And with the case of the Babylon A.D. piece, there would hardly be an article left. This is not to say there should be an "anything goes" policy. If a person began to become sexually explicit or the like, then it would be a wise choice to edit accordingly.

Simply put, to judge HM's (or, by extension, Doug Van Pelt's) Christianity by one incident is inappropriate and wrong. To imply that if he were to include edited profanity HM would no longer be a Christian magazine is unfair. The reason we are saved is because God was gracious enough to take our sin and not strike us when we do sin again. Our purpose on Earth is to share that grace with everyone we contact. I think that HM deserves that grace as well, for they are our family.

--Sean Howard
Pensacola, Florida

First let me say I got a lot out of the interviews with Tourniquet, Deliverance, Circle of Dust and Babylon A.D. It was also nice to see mention of the Violet Burning--truly one of the finest bands in music. You brought a smile to my face. But the reason I wrote is not a cheerful one. I was deeply disturbed by the things I read on "Letters to Ed." It is the prominent reason I drifted out of the Gospel metal scene (although I really like Believer, Tourniquet and a few other creative metal bands).

It all started with Tim Tucker and went through Ramon Gomez. The reference to putting out a Christian magazine--it shows little insight. A real magazine that tries to serve Christ will challenge--even at the risk of offending--its readers. Jesus was always challenging religious people. The concern over the phrase "pissed off" has me really confused. This is the first time I've ever heard of anyone calling it vulgar. Somehow, the phrase "I'm real angry" has little impact.

I was also dismayed by Stewart Evens Jr.'s letter. I study the lyrics and the covers and the interviews of the bands I listen to, Christian or not. I knew the instant I heard Mortal's tape (one of the coolest discs in the music arena), with just a casual listen, that it was "an excellent foppery of the world," not the "colorful metaphor" Stewart thought he heard. Maybe if he hadn't popped out the tape right away he could've figured it out, rather than making a rash judgement. As for me, a Mortal fan--YES!

I feel that, as Christians, we should

not swear; but the piety that has been featured lately hardly shows spiritual maturity. I've struggled with swearing ever since high school. I deal with it daily, but you better not tell me I don't know Christ just because of that! I've known people who don't swear, smoke, drink or have premarital sex and go to church. They have been some of the shallowest people I've known.

On to Ramon: lighten up, and give Doug a chance. You're overreacting. Check with Sharon Ziegler--that's the attitude! I mentioned that these were reasons why I drifted out of the Gospel metal scene. I saw too much of the pharisee in the metal fans I met. (I used to hang out at the New Union a lot. I can't believe how much I've grown since I stayed away from there.) I saw little love, a lot of anger (not righteous, just anger!) I haven't written off all metal fans. Some of the other readers have shown me that they think things through. We are to be as peaceful as doves and as wise as serpents--remember that. I want to thank Doug and crew for a well-written magazine. I leave you with these thoughts: "An individual Christian may see fit to give up all sorts of things for special reasons--marriage, or meat, or beer, or the cinema--but the moment he starts saying the things are bad in themselves, or looking down his nose at other people who do use them, he has taken a wrong turn." (C.S. Lewis, 1943)

--Thom Gladhill

Richfield, Minnesota

(Ed--Thanks for writing. I just want to point out that I've been to the New Union a few times and didn't see the immaturity and anger you referred to. I think any time we develop a "Christian entertainment" scene, we run the danger of becoming a social club and letting our flesh hang out; but I also think venues like the New Union are vital to the growth of Christian music.)

CORROSION OR CONFIRMATION?

I have a request for you "What So and So Sez" column. I'd like you to do an interview with the guys in Corrosion of Conformity. I read in a magazine that they write songs dealing with politics and the state of the middle-class people in America. Their drummer, Reed Mullin, said in the interview that he's "serious about being a future adoptive parent," and he feels "there are too many children up for adoption who need attention and love." Lastly, he says he "likes people who have the same fire to try making a change," regarding social issues. They also did a benefit show, where the proceeds were donated to the First AME Church Assistance Fund, for the recovery efforts in the riot-torn L.A. area.

I think it would be cool to interview them. They need to know the only way to help this country's problems is Jesus. He's the "solution" to our social and political turmoil.

I pray C.O.C. gets the same fire for Jesus like they do for changing society. I pray others pray for them and other secular bands. Sure, their ways are wrong, but Jesus died so all could be saved! So, don't just condemn these bands. Please, pray for them! Remember, we're all sinners. By the way, your magazine keeps getting better. Congratulations on your marriage, Doug!

--J.B.

Tower City, Pennsylvania

BAT HAPPY

I received the Terry Russell drumsticks I won the other day. I was so excited, because I never thought I would win. It had been a while since I entered the contest, so I was really surprised. Thank you so much. I'm a big Holy Soldier fan, so winning made it twice as nice! I still can't believe it! I want to thank everyone at Heaven's Metal and Holy Soldier.

--Tracee Mulkey

Otwell, Indiana

IT'S A CRIME!

I'm writing concerning a very serious problem that I see in the area of Christian metal. Not in the music or the artists, but in the listeners: that is, shoplifting. There are now only two stores in my area that carry Christian metal. There used to be four. A couple of years ago, the one store had to stop putting their metal demos out with the other demos and had to keep them behind the counter, because people were walking off with them. This store has since gone out of business due to financial problems (I wonder why). Another store is discontinuing its metal line, because they are unable to keep the stuff on their shelves. Again, not because of sales, but because of shoplifting!

It's been hard enough trying to get people in the church to see the credibility of Christian heavy metal, and this kind of behavior among (so called) Christians is certainly not helping things any. I'm sure that some who read this magazine are among those responsible for this and I would like to urge them that, if they are going to steal Christian tapes, to please listen to them! Pay attention to the lyrics. Let God speak to your heart through what the artists are saying. We are all sinners by nature, and only God's Spirit can penetrate our hearts and give us the ability to repent of the things that are displeasing to Him.

This letter is only directed at the few people who are guilty in this area. You are little by little destroying the reputation of an area of ministry that has been raised up by God Himself; and it is to Him, not me, that you will have to answer on Judgement Day. What are you going to do with it?

--Terry Legore

Manchester, Pennsylvania

ALCOHOLIC POISONING

On June 20th, my friend and I drove three hours to see our favorite band, Tourniquet, perform in St. Louis, MO. When we arrived and went in, we were told that alcohol would be sold. We left after hearing this and, needless to say, we were extremely shocked and disappointed! Why would a Christian band play a gig where alcohol was going to be sold? How could that be glorifying to the Lord?

A disappointed Tourniquet fan,

--Caton Brooks

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

(Ed--Check out Matthew 11:19 and Luke 7:34)

MASONRY???

I enjoy your magazine and Christian metal in general. I read something in Issue #36 that disturbs me greatly. Not knowing all the facts, I'll reserve "judgement" until I get more information.

It was written that several individuals and music organizations were operating out of Wonderland's Masonic Temple. Are the individuals involved members of the Masonic Lodge? Are they renting from them, thus giving God's money to a secretive and satanic organization? Do the Masons have any say in the operations of any band or music group, or agent? Are upper level management of any labels involved in or attached to the Masons? I can only direct those people to 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 and the enclosed copy from "Should a Christian be a Mason?" by Pat Brooks.

--Steve Lapp (Lightshine Int'l)

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

(Ed--Wonderland purchased a huge building that used to be a Masonic Temple. It houses a studio, a rehearsal stage and several offices. The company uses the building and label executive Caesar Kalinowski was serious enough about the former "happenings" in the building that he had several friends, pastors, etc. over to pray for the building, anoint it with oil and dedicate it before moving in, asking God to redeem the building and use it for His glory! Wonderland is not an organization that condones or participates in Masonry.)

BAND MERCHAN-DIE-ING

A message to all bands who send in tapes to be reviewed by white metal magazines: If you're going to offer a tape for sale and cannot send it within a four to six week period, then don't offer it for sale at all! I once waited five months for a tape and another time I waited 11 months! This is really unacceptable. I have a friend who sent for a tape and has sent three letters asking about it and has never heard anything from them. If you can't send it, then send the money back very, very soon.

--M.R.R.

Modesto, California

The Iscariot raised him.

Taught him a way of life.

Told him what to think.

Fed him until he starved!

Now he wants out...

Visual Crobar presents
The origin of ~

NIGHTMARE

IMAGES
of
ICY
WINDS

A 65 pg
Graphic Novel

Reader Discretion
Advised: This comic
book carries material
that may be too
intense for some
readers.

To order send 3.00 cash or check
(make checks out to Jeff
Swenson) to: Visual Crobar Prod.
1020 NE 179, Portland, OR 97230.

Concert Reviews



Derek and Jonathan (Photo by Michael Mullaghy)

NOVELLA

Hurricane-like weather dampened the ground, but not the spirit at Kingdom Bound '92 near Buffalo, New York. Star Song recording artists Novella had just flown in from Europe to appear at Kingdom Bound and, as vocalist Jonathan Pagano said during the set, "it was good to be back home."

The band played a short but sweet set of six songs, three from each of their two albums. "Story," "Bad Place" and "Don't You Run" from their latest album, "A LIQUID EARTH," plus a rare performance of "Whispers in the Night" from "ONE BIG SKY" all received ecstatic applause from the audience.

Even the band's sound check and an unrehearsed guitar/vocal rave-up between Pagano and six-string master Derek Jan were well-received. Drummer Adam Gibson and bassist Jon Spinola were the solid bottom end of Novella, as always. The precision of Gibson and Spinola allow Pagano and Jan to stretch out musically, without sounding lost in any way.

Near the end of the show, Pagano was obviously pleased with the band's performance. He saw that the winds and

rain held up for Novella, and said, "Isn't God good?" The audience roared their approval.

--Michael Mullaghy

BRIDE - Unplugged (Almost)

Subdued, but still rockin' with the same spirit, Bride pleased their hometown crowd with an "MTV Unplugged" style concert at the Berean Christian Bookstore in Louisville, KY.

Dale took the mike and went over the concert lineup for the next few months, then the band went into "Young Love." The only electric instrument was Rick's bass, and Troy's face was nowhere to be seen as he concentrated over his acoustic guitar, which gave all the songs a folksy Blues style. Metal Blues? Leave it up to the Thompson brothers to create a new style! "Hired Gun" was next, with a slightly improvisational ending into "Sweet Louise," which was obviously meant to be played "unplugged."

Dale's vocals were the same powerful force that has been the Bride trademark for years, despite the fact it was to be a quieter, gentler evening. But, if his voice was anything less than a 10 on the vocal richter scale, the audience would

have been greatly disappointed. Next came the only song not on KINETIC FAITH, "Same Old Sinner," and by then the crowd was ready to go all evening.

However, with their Dove Award on the mantle behind them, Bride concluded their acoustic set with "Everybody Knows My Name." Video and audio tape giveaways concluded the evening, as well as the chance for the audience to get to know the band backstage. Bride doesn't hide behind a curtain after the show, no matter how large or small the crowd. The band has always made room for the people for whom they play, which is sadly missing by most Christian Rock and Metal bands.

If everybody doesn't know their name by now, they will! With their extensive concert tour lineup this year, and their new album, Bride is on their way where no Metal band has gone before!

--Phil Sterling

LIVING SACRIFICE

My first taste of Living Sacrifice live was an incredibly loud, yet clean sound check at a small secular club in Burlington, Vermont. That was a small taste of things to come. After going back to our place to eat, my anticipation was

mounting. Finally, back to the club! After a high-quality opening set by Sekel (formerly Order of Chaos and formerly Sekel before that!), which showcased the bass playing talents of James Agosto; we were immersed in a massive wall of sound as DJ, Lance, Jason and Bruce opened their set with “**Violence**” from their debut album and then went into “**Obstruction**” without missing a beat. Those familiar with the album were surprised at DJ’s voice change. Instead of shouting, he growled in the death metal style. He told us later to look for that kind of style on the new album. Can’t wait!

DJ next introduced a brand new song as follows: “Sometimes a lot of us get depressed and we look for a way out. Instead of turning to the Truth of Jesus Christ, some people turn to drugs and end up in a ‘**Chemical Straitjacket**.’” The song spurred anticipation for the new album, which they recorded right after the tour was over. “**Phargyx Imas**” and “**No Grave Concern**” followed, with some heavy moshing action. The sound was ear-piercingly loud--louder than I had ever heard at that club.

To introduce “**Internal Unrest**,” DJ said, “Sadness, depression and suicidal thoughts have plagued humanity since its beginning, but God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, not to condemn, but to set us free from ‘**Internal Unrest**.’” This was one of the heaviest moshers (as if other stuff was cream-puffs!). They then went right into “**Anorexia Spiritual**,” the title song of their tour. After “**Consequence**,” a new song, DJ had to untangle his hair from his bass (“technical difficulties,” he joked.). With that out of the way, he stated, “There are many false religions who attempt to incorporate Christ in their lies and hypocrisy. By doing so, they have a form of godliness, but they deny its power and become a ‘**Haven of Blasphemy**’”—a song from their demo that didn’t make it on the first album.

Next came “**Void of Expression**,” a new song about someone who decays so much spiritually that you can see it physically. This song had some brutal speed guitar. Through the whole night, the playing of Jason and Bruce was incredibly tight, mature, and technically outstanding. And I could also rave on about Lance’s drumming; “Wow!” is the best way to describe it. Living Sacrifice ended the show with their popular “**Second Death**.” They talked about the Lord with many non-Christians after the show, and I heard them encouraging Christians to get their priorities straight. I went home with my head pounding and praise in my heart for these four brothers who play this brutal music, who don’t compromise in their



Devino doin' his stuff (Photo by "J.P.")

message during or after the show, who challenge Christians to always put the Lord first, and who show genuine compassion for lost souls.

--Marc Carpenter

TOURNIQUET

Despite three no-shows, the First Annual Sanctuary “800-Lines” Benefit Concert still rocked. The **Sanctuary Praise Band**, led by Minister of Music Jim LaVerde, started things off right by leading the crowd in praise and worship. The idea of praise and worship on the Sunset Strip was cool!

Precious Death followed with a crunching set. I noticed Larry Farkas (Vengeance Rising, Die Happy) on lead guitar for them. The mosh pit quickly showed that Precious Death is definitely a local favorite. The highlight for me was “**Force Fed**.” A working television was brought on stage, only to be destroyed by the singer wielding a baseball bat.

Christifari gave the audience a bit of a change of pace. This has got to be the best Christian reggae I’ve heard. One crowd favorite was a cover of the Steve Miller Band classic, “**Fly Like an Eagle**.”

Electrik was next. They reminded me of a young Skid Row. This is definitely a band to watch for. **Rachel Rachel** played a three-song set, highlighted by their now famous cover of “**Carry On**

Wayward Son.” On one song, Pastor Bob came out on stage to play keyboards for them.

Tourniquet was finally up and well worth the wait! They opened with “**Ark of Suffering**” with a bit of a twist. Guy Ritter on drums, Ted Kirkpatrick on lead guitar, Gary Lenaire on bass, Victor Macias on rhythm and Erik Mendez on vocals! Halfway through the song, they switched back to their respective instruments. The set included two of my personal favorites, “**Somnambulism**” and “**Broken Chromosomes**.” Also included were “**Test for Leprosy**,” “**Spineless**,” “**A Dog’s Breakfast**” and a killer instrumental. As if Tourniquet’s playing skills weren’t enough to dazzle the audience, Devino performed a variety of special effects to highlight the message of several songs. As an encore, Tourniquet performed “**Psycho Surgery**” on the audience.

All in all, the First Annual “800 Lines” Benefit Concert was great. Almost two thousand dollars were raised to keep the lines going, but more is needed. If the Lord leads you to give, please send any donations to: “800 Lines,” c/o Sanctuary, PO Box 4130, Redondo Beach, CA 90278-8330. If you are in need of help, or just need someone to talk to, call 1-800-548-5222 in the U.S. or Canada.

--Anthony Scott



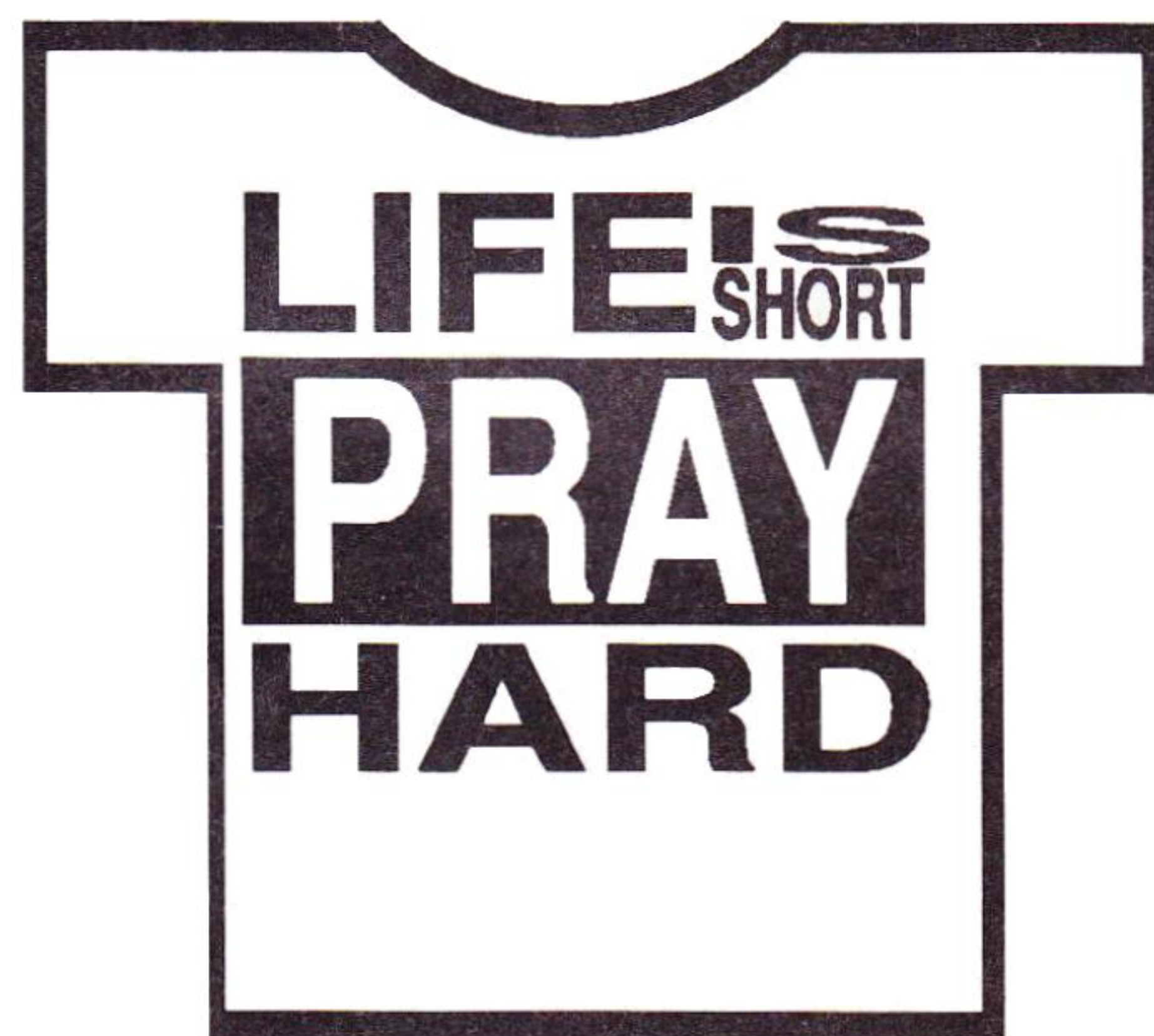
#LHJF
NEON GREEN W/ NAVY OUTLINE
on WHT or *TYE-DYE



#CTE
RED DEMON W/ CHROME HEAVENLY METAL
ON BLK



#KKL
BLK & SILVER ON WHT
or WHT & SILVER ON BLK
** WHT HOCKEY JERSEY



#LIS
BLK ON WHT or WHT ON BLK

100% COTTON TEES- \$10
9oz SWEAT SHIRT \$20
*TYE DYE \$15
**HOCKEY JERSEY \$30



THE NEW **XALT**

T-SHIRT
FRONT POCKET PRINT
NEON YELLOW to NEON PINK BLENDED CROSS
W/ BLK XALT LOGO
BACK PRINT
BAND PHOTO W/ NEON PINK-YELLOW GUITAR

INLINE

DESIGN SCREEN PRINTING

ALSO DOES CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING
FOR CHURCHES, YOUTH GROUPS, etc.
WE ALSO PRINT T-SHIRTS FOR CHRISTIAN BANDS
LIKE XALT, SERAIAH AND EVEN
HEAVENS METAL MAGAZINE.
WE WANT TO PRINT YOUR BANDS
T-SHIRTS, SWEATS, HATS OR BANDANAS

*So give us a call at (517) 484-1007
and ask for Bill.
"WE'LL HOOK YOU UP!"*

ITEM# M L XL XXL

PLEASE ADD \$2.50 SHIPPING
AND HANDLING FOR FIRST SHIRT
\$1.50 PER ADDITIONAL SHIRTS
XXL ADD \$1 PER TEE \$2 PER SWEAT

SUB TOTAL
SHIPPING

TOTAL

CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY
PAYABLE TO

INLINE
DESIGN
221 S. LARCH
LANSING, MI. 48912



Robin and Larry gettin' the lead out for Die Happy
Photo by "J.P."

A DAY IN YOUR FACE

We survived "A Day in Your Face," which was held outdoors in Marysville, California on August 15th, 1992. It was a totally awesome show. We had a crowd of 500+ and all the bands were great!

The first half of the day premiered some great Northern California bands: **Oracle**, the **Blitz Band**, **Envoy**, **M.C. T-Bone**, **Max** (from J.C. Crew), **P.G. Dread**, **Dance of the Porcupines**, and **Greg Strange**. There were water balloon fights and super soakers everywhere!

One of the highlights was the dunk tank with members from: Oracle, Envoy, Corpus Christi and Deliverance going under! A huge line formed when yours truly, Fred Z. (Sr. Pastor of the Marysville Calvary Chapel) stepped into the tank. Isn't it great to be loved by the sheep? I got drenched!

The evening saw the harder acts cranking it out. **Jesus Freaks** (from Sacramento) were the first ones to get the pit going! A real surprise to everyone was **Corpus Christi** from Modesto. These youngsters really tore it up! Keep an eye out for them. They're seriously dangerous and hot!

Die Happy was incredible!

Their stage antics threw the audience into a complete frenzy! The dual guitar attacks of Doug and Larry were precise; and Robin's voice cuts through you like a knife! A very intense live act!

Deliverance hit the stage like a nuclear assault. It was a total blessing to see Brian back on bass. Jimmy's voice sounded as great as ever. It was sad that his guitar went on the blink, but new guitarist Mike Phillips held it all together. Time didn't permit for all the favorites, but they gave it all they had!

Mike Lee did some acoustic tunes and, as soon as the crowd heard his trademark vocals (Barren Cross), they totally lost.

An extra special thanks go to **Tourniquet**, whose time got cut short because of poor planning and hassles with the local constabularies. Tourniquet totally tore it up! They have to be the most visually exciting band that exists within the Christian realm! Their music was extremely tight! Illusionist Devino had the fans going nuts--with the major butane flame-thrower trip! If you've never experienced Tourniquet with Devino at night, you just haven't lived yet.

A sister shared a testimony of

At right: Mike Lee's solo act (Photo by "J.P.")

how she lost her son to a bullet shot by his father (due to alcohol and violence) and yet the peace of God has kept her through it! The Lord gave me an intense message and over 20 young people and two police officers prayed to get right with Jesus! The angels were rejoicing! We gave away lots of Bibles and tracts and, all in all, it was just a wonderful day!

We plan on making "A DAY IN YOUR FACE" an annual Northern California festival. Hope you can make it next year!

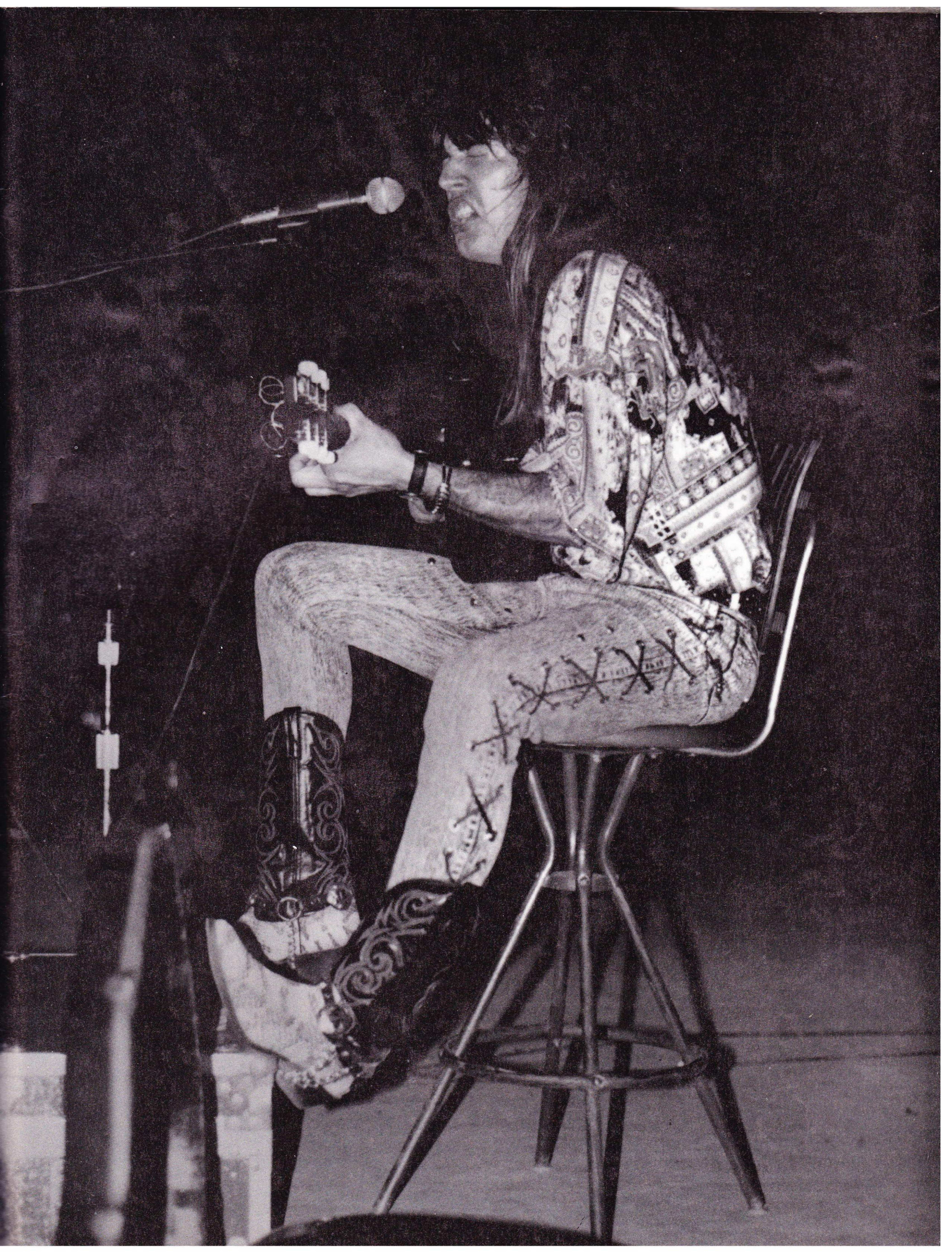
--Pastor Fred Z.

Looking for the right band?

**Christian
Musician's Referral**
NATIONWIDE - FREE SERVICE

Diane Vega
7301 Burnet Rd. #102-163
Austin, TX 78757

(512) 371-7655



1992 Heaven's Metal Reader's Poll

Can you believe it? It's that time of year again already! Think of all your favorite bands, musicians, albums, songs and artwork from the past year and send in your votes (one vote per category, please). When voting, remember to make your decision based upon performances/releases from 1992.

This year Heaven's Metal is giving away a portable compact disc player to one person randomly chosen from the first 100 ballots received! (Plus we'll throw in a couple of cool cd's to start/build your collection.) The deadline is January 1, 1993.

For the infamous "Guitar Hero Award" category, remember that (by his request) Rex Carroll of Whitecross is ineligible to win this award for the next five years--so vote for somebody else this year!

As always, remember that the word "Favorite" was chosen instead of "Best," because we don't need to incite any more competition within the body of Christ.

Send your ballots (one per person) to:
Heaven's Metal Reader's Poll
PO Box 17367
Austin, Texas 78760-7367

1. Favorite Album Cover
2. Favorite Album
3. Favorite Song
4. Favorite Live Band
5. Favorite Bassist
6. Favorite Singer
7. Favorite Guitarist ("Guitar Hero" Award)
8. Favorite Drummer
9. Favorite Thrash/Speed Metal Band
10. Favorite Grunge/"Alterno-Metal" Band
11. Overall Favorite Band
12. Favorite Unsigned Band
13. Favorite Custom/Independent Tape
14. Favorite Lyricist
15. Favorite Producer
16. Favorite New Band
17. Comeback Of The Year
18. Favorite "Short-Form" Video (One Song)
19. Favorite Issue of Heaven's Metal
20. Favorite Presidential Candidate

the heaven's metal hotline

Get the latest news fast!

Weekly news, Tour Dates, and Music Samples

Updated every Monday afternoon by

Heaven's Metal Editor Doug Van Pelt

1-900-990-0085 ext. 107

\$2 per minute with 5-minute max limit

Heaven's Metal, Austin, Texas

Under 18 get your parent's permission
touch-tone required

7th HEAVEN



Planet Under Siege

HOT NEW ALBUM FROM 7th HEAVEN

10 SIZZLING CUTS

CD \$13.99 TAPE \$9.99
\$2.00 shipping and handling

ORDER NOW!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

Mail Order To: Eye Witness Music
3021-9 N.E. 72nd Ave. Suite 116
Vancouver, WA 98662
Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.



PROGRESSIVE METAL WITH A POSITIVE LIFE SENTENCE

Are you prepared to do the time?


DELIVERANCE
STAY OF EXECUTION

Photography by Rick F. Patrick

Here Comes The Bride

This is a photo of my bride, Charlotta Van Pelt. I have pledged my love to her, my commitment to serve her no matter what and protect her and provide for her. I have promised to love her as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her to make her holy (Ephesians 5:25). If husbands are commanded in scripture to love their wives like Christ loved the church, then we can assume that all the emotion, all the devotion and (most of all) all the love-inspired action that we can do for another person cannot even compare to the intense emotion, passion, devotion and love-inspired action that Jesus has for His followers--His bride, which is how the Bible defines those who believe in and follow Jesus.

(Revelation 21:2-14)

When I saw my bride walking down the aisle towards me, I was blown away. My heart was racing with excitement and my gut was tightening as I realized that this woman was pledging her life to me. I was overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude that one of the great desires of my heart was being fulfilled. My face must've been a mixture of a mouth dropped open in astonishment and a joyous smile from ear to ear.

Imagine the look of joy that Jesus has on His face when He sees us coming to Him! His love for us is so incredibly deep! Any comparison to human love on this earth is paled compared to His intense, permanent and passionate love for us. He created us to share a wonderful relationship with Him--a relationship that He likened to marriage. In fact, the entire Bible is one great big story of God going to great length to bring the people He created back to Him. He wants every one of us.



Before the wedding ceremony, my bride was readying herself for that moment when the doors of the sanctuary were going to be opened and we were going to lock eyes. She was overwhelmed with excitement and wanted to look and be the best she possibly could for that moment. This is what the followers of Jesus are doing: making themselves ready and preparing "as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband."

(Revelation 21:2)

We are preparing ourselves to be beautiful where it really counts: on the inside. God is committed to and at work shaping us and forming the inner qualities in us that make us beautiful and more like Him, such as: loving, honest, giving,

trustworthy, faithful, gentle, peaceful, patient, joyful, self-controlled, kind, wise, strong and good. (Galatians 5:22-23, Proverbs 1:25, 1 Peter 4:11) Jesus gave His life for His bride to cleanse her "to present her to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless." (Ephesians 5:27)

The bride of Christ and Jesus Himself will soon be physically reunited, and there will be a huge wedding feast. All those who follow Jesus are invited to partake of this feast. Don't ever think that only a few, elite, super-spiritual people will be there; for Jesus made it clear in a story He once told that the Father has instructed His servants to go out to the highways and byways and invite whoever may come. (Matthew 22:9) One of the last verses in the Bible shows the Holy Spirit and the bride of Christ speaking the invitation in unison to "Come! Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life." (Revelation 22:17)